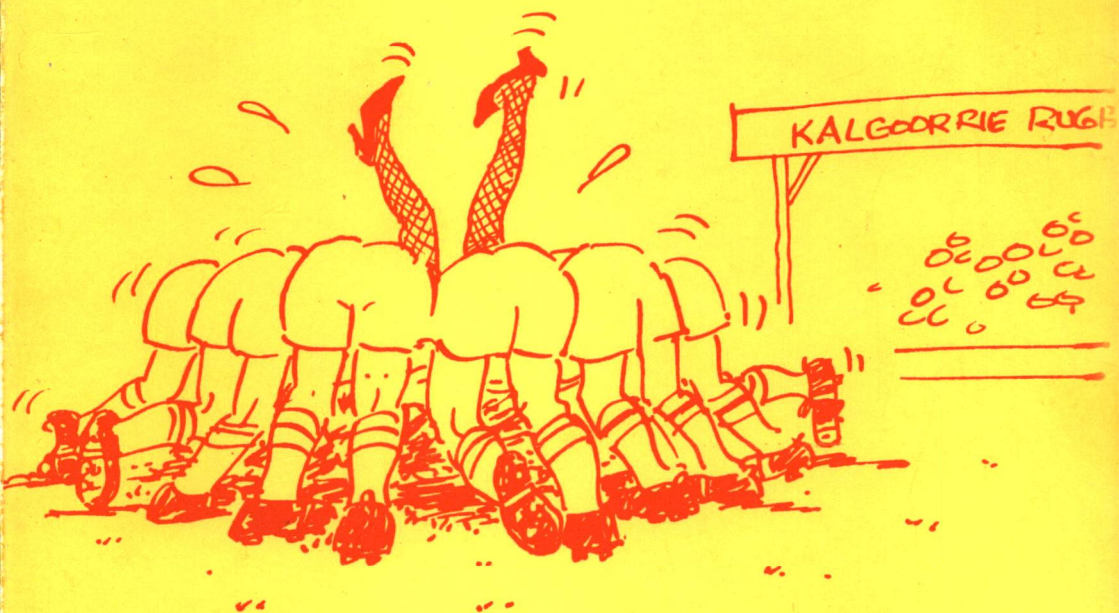


THE BOOK OF **TRIVIA** & **QUOTATIONS**

BEING A MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTION OF WIT,
SATIRE, INCONSEQUENCE, PUNS AND SIMILAR
BUFFOONERY CULLED FROM THE NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL PRESS.

EDITED BY
MAURICE VAN DER VELDEN



ORIGINAL CARTOONS BY
MIKE ATKINSON

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA
&
QUOTATIONS

This book contains a selection of trivia, quotations, newspaper headlines and unintelligible reportage.

Every article reported here is, as far as we know,
the truth....

This book is dedicated to
Cristine
without whom nothing is possible.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

ANIMALS

In Sheridan, Oregon, in 1986, a mass burial of heat struck chickens exploded 40 feet into the air.

A Rugby club hit on a novel way to raise money for charity. They sectioned off their pitch into squares and let loose a cow. People paid £1 a time for each square and the winner was the person on whose plot the cow dropped its first 'pat'.

A terrier went to spend a penny on a lamp post and was electrocuted. The dead dog was killed because the post was 'live' due to vandalism.

A labrador has been banned from a Burnham-on-Sea golf course - after stealing over 4,000 balls.

Sheep and deer on Scottish islands are becoming carnivores. It is believed that they are biting the wings, heads and legs off seabird chicks to give them calcium deficient in their diet.

Authorities in Shanghai have ordered that all pet dogs must be killed. This follows an outbreak of rabies and the biting of thousands of citizens by dogs.

Police in Essex tracked down a lion reported by a motorist - and found an Irish Wolfhound.

A lion-tamer has been deported from the Trucial States. During his act a lion mounted a lioness and he was unable to prevent the pair copulating in front of an audience of 500 children. The circus commented: "We do try to prevent this sort of thing, but once started it is inadvisable to interrupt."

About 730,000 kangaroos were killed in New South Wales, Australia in 1988.

Bodmin council have erected a sign next to a drinking trough donated in memory of a pet lover's dogs. The sign bans dogs from the park where the trough is.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

ANIMALS

Hundreds of seals have been clubbed to death on the coast of South Africa. The oriental sex market is blamed - as none of the animals had been skinned and only one small portion of the male's body had been removed.

Sydney, Australia, experienced a flea epedemic in early 1989.

Frogs eat with their eyes closed.

A Rottweiler guard dog let thieves escape with £200 from his master's pub - and then kept police at bay for four hours.

A five legged calf was born in South Wales during 1989.

Teheran Zoo is reported to have lost some of its animals due to cannibalism. An Iranian newspaper reported that a 340 kilo boa constrictor ate its mate and a brown bear ate two of its companions. Deer, geese, zebras and a swan have all starved to death. Lack of money is blamed.

The 'social' cost of stray dogs in Britain is around £77,000,000. The figure includes the cost of 50,000 road traffic accidents caused by strays at £50,000,000 and a 'mere' £750,000 for destroying strays.

Irene Handl, the actress, left £500 in her will to the British Chihuahua Club.

After two consecutive mild winters Britain's rodent population is increasing at the rate of 30% per annum.

A 25 foot shark which killed a diver off the Italian coast brings the number of shark attacks in the mediterranean to 19 *in the last 126 years.*

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
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ANIMALS

Reports from Bodmin in Cornwall tell of strange goings on in the frog world. During a recent love-in all the male frogs faced east whilst procreating.

A dog lover in Durham is knitted herself a jumper - from the coats of her two dead alsatians.

Drug squad officers took sausages with them when they raided a suspect's house, because they knew he kept a Rottweiler. Unfortunately, his wife, hearing the police, jumped naked out of bed and was promptly hit in the face with one.

The rarest dog in the world is the Tahl-Tan Bear Dog - of which there are just three in existence.



Female black widow spiders can eat up to 20 males in a day.

An Anatolian Karabash is ... a breed of dog.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

A whiff of wine would knock me to the floor (Princess Diane)

*I think some of the Tory wets will be worried - particularly about the water.
(Bruce Anderson of the Sunday Telegraph talking about privatisation)*

- I think men can have sex with anyone (Jerry Hall)

People think I can only talk about clothes and make-up. But when they come into my flat and see books on the Vietnam War and South African history, they're surprised. (Fiona Wright)

Death is excusable (Tam Dalyell, MP)

Willie's [Willie Thorne] strength is among the balls (Eddie Charlton).

Thatcher is Florence Nightingale with a blow-lamp (Denis Healey).

*The food wasn't bad, considering I had the chef at 3 o'clock this afternoon.
(Molly Parkin. talking in Tatler about the Chelsea Arts Club).*

He [Robert Maxwell] is said to be worth \$1.4 billion. Yet despite the colossal Mont Blanc gold pen he wields like a fat cigar, the enormously expensive Lord & Stewart suit, the butter-soft cashmere overcoat, the private jet, the helicopter, the yacht with a crew of 14, the personal chef, the Rolls-Royces, the thing Maxwell values most is time. (Time Magazine article).

I don't object to being described as a cheap, decolette, gold-laden tart, but I really object to being called 39. (Wendy Henry [33] Editor of the News of the World).

Everybody assumes that because I'm famous I have loads of men chasing around after me. (Nina Myskow)

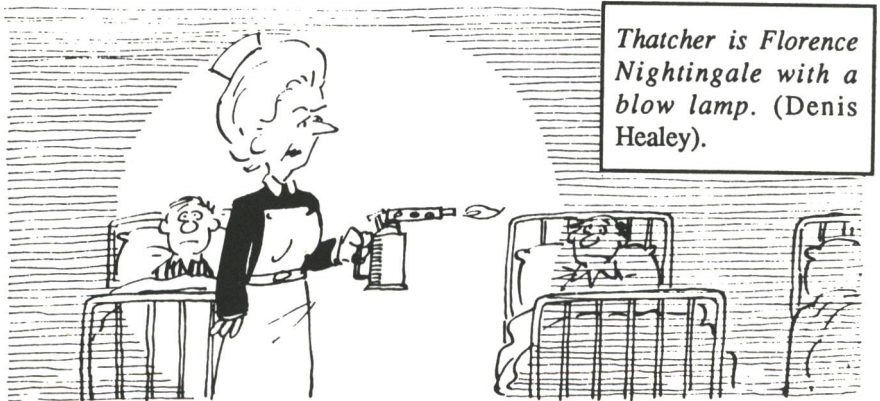
THE WORLD OF ART

Five pounds of best butter, left by an artist in a room in the Dusseldorf state art gallery, was thrown away by zealous cleaners. The owner of the 'work of art' sued the government for DM40,000 (£13,000) compensation.

At a Sotheby's auction, a work by Picasso, valued by the auctioneers at £800,000, went for £4,000,000

Chinese painter Ding Guix Hing uses a mouse whisker to paint portraits on human hairs.

At a sale at Christie's a red chalk drawing, estimated value £500-£600, sold for £22,000.



Sotheby's sold a marble bust - estimated by them at £50,000 to £70,000 - for £825,000.

Police in Peking deflated one of the exhibits at an art show and closed the exhibition down. The deflated piece was a huge set of blow-up sex organs.

The Independent newspaper reports that the Pompidou art gallery purchased a '*higgledy-piggledy collage glued onto a mirror by Kurt Schwitters, incorporating bits of broken china, a leaf, a chocolate box and a drawing pin*'. And all for a mere £198,000.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

THE RICH & FAMOUS

At the great tie auction at Bonhams ... Mick Jagger's tie went for £1,500 - Les Dawson's fetched £250.

Jerry Hall ... her hair ... revealing at the parting almost an inch of its natural colour. Beneath the panstick and all along the sticky pink line of her faceshaper were clearly visible, if rather clogged, zits ... a hint of a figure that might need bottom coverage. (Article in Today)

Yoko Ono has said that she believes that the spirit of her murdered husband, John Lennon, influenced President Gorbachev to cut arms.

Ex-president Marcos and his wife, bereft (?) of funds, are renting a house for 3,000 dollars a month and paying for a limousine, a dozen servants and 30 bodyguards.

Most people know that superstar James Dean died in a car smash. But how many know that he was driving a Porsche Spyder.

Victoria Principal's vital statistics are 36-22-33-147. The last being an I.Q. which puts her in the top 2% in the world for intelligence.

Robert Redford, convicted for speeding at 95mph in a 55mph zone, is having to retake his driving test as a result of the offence.

A 75 year-old pensioner was the only entrant in a competition organised by Greater Manchester radio. The theory was that half the money wagered - on when Edwina Currie would resign - would go to the winner, and half to Children In Need. It would have cost the 'lucky' winner 50p in bus fares to collect his 5p prize money.

Steven Spielberg has bought himself and his wife matching black Porsches - at a cost of £250,000.

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THE RICH & FAMOUS

Property tycoon Donald Trump reportedly employs a man to stamp the Trump logo on every sheet of lavatory paper.

Ronald Reagan suffers from Dupuytren's contracture.

Kylie is a brand name for incontinence pants in Australia - home of the famous actress Kylie Minogue.

Only two people have ever refused to appear on 'this Is Your Life', Danny Blanchflower and Richard Gordon (who agreed to appear a few months later).

George Bush was president of the Skull and Bones secret society at Yale University.

A 'prophetess' in New York has claimed that Pope Paul VI was an imposter and that her assertion can be checked by a careful examination of the pope's earlobes.

Robert Maxwell is the holder of the Bulgarian People's Republic's 'Order Stara Planina (First Class).

Ladbrokes, the bookmakers, have had to slash their odds on Elvis Presley being alive. Due to heavy betting the odds have plummeted dramatically from 5,000 to 1 to 1,000 to 1.

Gene Pitney, legendary pop singer, never had a number 1 hit in his 26 years at the top - until 1989.

The family of George Bush, president of USA, left Messing in Essex in 1631.

Baron Manfred von Richtofen, first world war flying ace, ordered a pair of beagling shoes from an Oxford shop before the war. The bootmakers recently presented his great-nephew with the unpaid bill - for 10s 9d (55p).

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THE RICH & FAMOUS

When Charlie Chaplin entered a 'Charlie Chaplin Lookalike' competition in Monte Carlo - he came third.

Horatio Nelson is listed among the dead on a World War II memorial at Plymouth. He was a Free Frenchman who had chosen the 'nom de guerre' in order to avoid reprisals against his family.

Peter Pan is 85 years old this year. (1989)

Jocky Wilson, darting superstar, has no teeth. They're all false.



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WHEN IN ROME

In Russia lost production through absenteeism - because workers were too drunk to turn up - has now turned to lost production because workers are queuing for alcohol. Thanks to Gorbachev's alcohol reform laws there is a chronic shortage.

Cheap cologne is reputed to be impossible to buy in Moscow - it's all snapped up by drinkers.

Pollution from a meat processing plant in Khmelnytsky, Western Ukraine, is so bad that thousands of local people have been issued with the latest Soviet combat gas mask, free of charge.

Russian queues for liquor are so bad that, so far, 3 people have died in the crushes. Moscow has 400 police patrolling just to stop fights breaking out - the biggest recorded queue is one of 5,000 people.

The Cuban diplomat expelled for flourishing a gun in a London street has been given a bravery award by Fidel Castro.

In China dozens of teenage peasants have committed suicide in the hope of being reborn as wealthy city girls. More than 50 are said to have drowned in remote southern China. Some have been nailed in their coffins to prevent their spirits escaping.

West Indian and Turkish women share a superstition. They believe that if they are pregnant and feel the urge to eat fruit they must not scratch themselves, otherwise their child will be born with a fruit shaped birthmark.

In the early 1900's, in the Ottoman Empire, the job of the Sultan's Grand Vizier was to: "see to the Sultan's ablutions, tea, bedding & prayer mats and to maintain a constant supply of beautiful and healthy circasian girls."

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

WHEN IN ROME

Police in North Korea warned a brothel keeper to 'keep a better watch on his employees' after a 25 year old university lecturer had complained to them that she had been kidnapped, sold for £1,200, sexually assaulted, repeatedly raped, then put to work as a prostitute.

Moslem gypsies believe that a vampire can only be seen in daylight by boy/girl twins who were born on a Saturday, providing that they are wearing their drawers inside out.

A factory worker in Benin, practising his golf swing during his lunch hour, sent a ball through the windscreen of a jet about to take off. The pilot crashed into four other fighter planes, wiping out the country's airforce and causing damage totalling £44,000,000.

A Soviet woman has been jailed for 4 years for spreading dangerous diseases. She gave her first husband syphilis, then contracted AIDS and infected at least 8 other men.

In Iraq, you can no longer become a hairdresser if you are male. Male hairdressers already employed will be sacked on the government's instructions.

Peasants in China are paying over £300 for baby 'boys'. Unfortunately, several cases have been reported where the 'boy's' genitalia has subsequently dropped off - revealing that the buyer's have been fobbed off with disguised girls.

Poland apparently has the TV programme 'Dallas' off to a fine art. The entire production of male and female voices is dubbed by one man.

Russians have the highest personal savings of any country in the world. Partly, cynics might say, because they've nothing on which to spend their money.

The first countries in the world to be twinned are Wales and Lesotho.

WHEN IN ROME

An American lady locked herself out of her house and couldn't wake her husband to let her in. She removed most of her clothes to squeeze through an open window, but got stuck. A snowstorm raged and she froze to death.

Tibet's fifth Dalai Lama died after holding the position for 68 years. His regent managed to conceal the death for FIFTEEN YEARS.

Havoc has been caused on China's newest motorway because motorists are being caught doing up to 50mph. The speed limit is 38mph.

In America the National Organisation of Women has asked the Pentagon to ban paintings of females from the fuselage of airforce planes.

The Ghanaian Secretary for Education and Culture reports that, 35 years after the start of the first mass literacy drive, 70% of the population are still illiterate.

Nigeria has one car for every 1,000 people. There are more cars in Bristol than in Nigeria with its population of 89,000,000.

According to press reports Czechoslovakia pays Gypsy women who agree to be sterilised 25,000 crowns - but non-Gypsy women have to PAY 2,000 crowns.

Russian women are estimated to each have between 4 and 9 abortions in a lifetime - mainly as a result of the lack of contraceptive devices.

Italian officials have sent a penniless widower a bill for £80,000. The money is to pay for damage caused to the Milan-Rome express when his wife threw herself under it.

34 murderers and drug traffickers spent two months digging a tunnel in a Mexican prison. No-one noticed and they finally dug clear and escaped.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

WHEN IN ROME

A man in China who turned in his brother for killing a guard in a robbery was given a £500 reward and a pay rise.

The driver of a motor scooter has been charged by police in Northern Sumatra for carrying passengers who are not wearing a crash helmet. The driver, who works for the ambulance service, delivers corpses of people who die in hospital back to their homes on his scooter because no ambulance is available.

China is to equip all new cars and lorries with vibrating seats which massage the driver's bottom. According to the makers, tests have shown that the seats can reduce accidents by 10%.

Polics in Lagos, Nigeria, arrested three people for trading in human skulls at a local market. They recovered 5 skulls.

Mikhail Gorbachev's pay puts him 11th in the world leaders' salary table. With an income of £17,640 he lags well behind number 4 - Mrs. Thatcher on £51,068.

Ayatollah Khomeini's main claim to fame when he was at school was that he was the school leapfrog champion.

Four radio station bosses in Iran were each sentenced to 50 lashes and 17 years in jail for allowing an interviewee to say that the Prophet Mohammed's daughter was not her heroine. Their sentences were, fortunately, later annulled.

A 20 year-old student died recently in Nigeria. He had drunk a whole bottle of whisky after boasting that he could finish it unharmed. He was wrong.

Amongst many catchy little tunes popular in China in the 1970's were: *'The Red Sunshine Lighted Up The Platform Around The Steel Furnace'* and *'Baritone Solo to be loaded with friendship and carried abroad by sailors in Chinese made ships'*.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

WHEN IN ROME

Miss Hsu Shao-Tan, of Taiwan, was recently allowed to give a trial performance of her art. The performance was attended by 3,000 policemen and was only allowed after Miss Hsu threatened suicide unless she was permitted to do it. Miss Hsu is a nude dancer and gave two displays entitled: 'The Day of Purity' and 'Venus Rising in the East'.

The suicide rate in Russia is more than three times higher than in Britain.

The State Patent Office in China has endorsed some amazing inventions. One such is an electric height increasing appliance. Adverts for this wonderful [and totally useless] little gadget state that it will make the user grow between 5 and 7 centimetres taller within 6 months.



Danish police are investigating a spate of thefts of compasses from fishing boats. The crimes are being blamed on fishermen who smash the compasses to drink the potent alcoholic liquor inside. Each machine holds 6 pints of the stuff.

The province of Fujian has recently witnessed China's first gay wedding. The 100 guests are reported not to have noticed that the bride was a man. Unfortunately, 'he' was subsequently required to take a medical test and sacked from his job.

A report by the China Rural Development Research Centre estimates that there will be a surplus of workers in the country by the year 2,000. The surplus is estimated to be 250,000,000 people.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEADLINES

■ TITS AND MILK.

(Independent - on the way birds open milk bottles)

■ TOT LIVES 4 YEARS ON SINGLE BAKED BEAN.

(Sunday Sport) Subhead - 'Our stories put the wind up the rest.'

■ UFO BUN STOLE MY KNICKERS

(Sunday Sport)

■ DAUGHTER MARRIES DAD.

(Daily Mirror) A pensioner is married by his ordained daughter

■ MAN SURVIVES 114 DAYS AT SEA BY EATING HIS OWN CLOTHES.

(Tabasco newspaper ad.)

■ DEFENESTRATION OF HEPATIC SINUSOIDS AS A CAUSE OF HYPERPROTEINAEMIA IN ALCHOLICS.

(Lancet)

■ A WINNIE OF DESPAIR.

(Independent - critique of the play 'The Churchill Play').

■ DIEHARD TORY MP'S NO LONGER FEEL SAFE WITH MATES.

(Independent, referring to the MP Mates).

■ ALIEN CURRY BEAST BIT MY BUM

(Sunday Sport).

■ URINE DETECTORS TRAP 122 IN SINGAPORE LIFTS.

(Daily Telegraph, reporting on the problem of men fouling lifts in blocks of flats).

■ STRESS 'COULD FINISH DJ PIG'

(Sun, the RSPCA ticks off a disco for letting a pig sing to hordes of fans).

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TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

GREEN PIECES

Crabs and leftovers from prawn cocktails are vital ingredients in a new pollution-free plastic like material developed in Japan. The only drawback to large scale production appears to be that the supply of crab shells is limited.

Scientists say that so much man made rubbish is circling the earth that we will soon have rings like Saturn.

Poland is Europe's second highest producer of acid rain.

Mexico city is reported to be the most dangerous city in the world for polluted air. Exhaust pipes alone spew out an estimated 5 million tons of contaminants into the atmosphere each year.

Britain is the worst offender of Sulphur Dioxide pollution in the atmosphere - and the greatest polluter of the North Sea and the Irish Sea.

Lucky children in Mexico City will go back to school a month late after the Winter break. A rise in pollution levels in the capital has, allegedly, made it dangerous for them to return earlier.

Experts in Shanghai state that 80% of cancer deaths there are caused by pollution.

The EEC insist on a minimum cage size of 450 square centimetres for battery chickens. (21cms x 21cms)

Florida fishermen are cutting the fins off live sharks to sell to Chinese as aphrodisiacs. The sharks can't fend for themselves without fins.

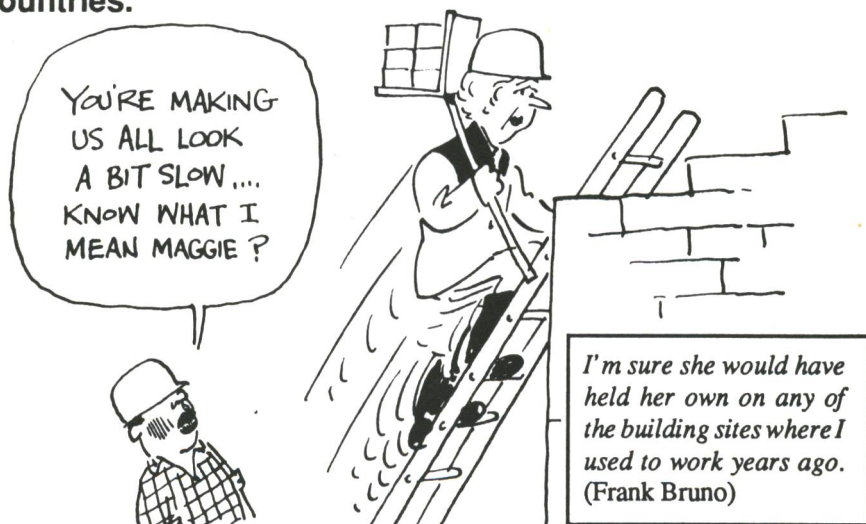
The world's population rose by 84 millions in 1988. By 2025 it is estimated that the population of Africa will equal the combined populations of Europe and North and South America.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

GREEN PIECES

Acid rain is being blamed for hair loss in 150 young children in a Ukrainian city. The authorities wash the city streets regularly and ban traffic for one day a week in an effort to contain pollution.

If Britain cut its consumption of CFC's by 90% we would still be using more than India. We export CFC's to 117 other countries.



Scientists say that some CFC gases have a life expectancy of 139 years.

Man's destruction of natural habitats is driving 100 species of plants, insects and animals to extinction EVERY DAY.

Russia recently announced that it has 50,000 tons of chemical weapons. America has 'only' 40,000 tons.

Ozone destroying chemicals are being produced an estimated six times faster than the atmosphere can break them down.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

This job is dead set to make you abnormal, peculiar and out of touch.
(Clare Short MP)

There is no such thing as collective guilt (Kurt Waldheim).

Hi. I'm Eddy Shah, and I've just brought out a new national daily called The Post. But this time I've got it right. Try The Post tomorrow. (Eddy Shah)

I never play my own records at home. (Max Bygraves)

I'm sure she would have held her own on any of the building sites where I used to work years ago. (Frank Bruno, on Mrs. Thatcher)

There are more rhinoceroses in Wales than there are members of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers. (Neil Kinnock)

I often sit back and think 'I wish I'd done that' and find out later that I have. (Richard Harris).

All you have to do is have a big, fat beer gut and you get a gong. (Terry Dick's MP, about a dart player being honoured).

She is everything a woman should be. (Jeffrey Archer - on Dame edna Everage).

I haven't made love for a year. (Lord Lichfield).

I do not think that an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth is ever valid (Mrs. Thatcher).

I am happy, because for the first time in my life I am older than my hip size. (Nina Myskow).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

A junior doctor's life is always going to be arduous. (David Mellor, health minister).

I used to say that politics was the second oldest profession, and I have come to know that it bears a gross similarity to the first. (Ronald Reagan).

A lie can be halfway round the world before the truth has got its boots on (James Callaghan, ex-PM).

I have no regrets (Edwina Currie).

It has only affected the community in a small way. (Prince Andrew, after the Lockerbie disaster).

You're not drunk if you can lie on the floor without holding on. (Dean Martin).

I'm the same bubbly Beatle I was 25 years ago (Ringo Starr).

He is no different to any other multi-talented 30-year-old alleged virgin millionaire with a menagerie of pets. (Caribbean Times' on Michael Jackson).

The Sunday Sport is a fantastic newspaper .. I read your story about the frog boy and I was moved to tears. I believe every word of it. (Bernard Manning).

I can't wait to have another one - and practising is rather fun, isn't it? (Duchess of York, on babies).

Why does everybody hate me? I'm one of the nicest people I know. (Robin Givens, wife of Mike Tyson).

It sounds extra-ordinary but it's a fact that balance sheets can make fascinating reading. (Mary Archer, wife of novelist Jeffrey).

HEALTH WISE

A mentally retarded woman, aged 28, was rescued from a five foot deep hole where her parents had kept her chained for most of her life. The Sicilian family had hidden her because they were ashamed of her handicap.

A Boston woman who was kept in a mental hospital for 17 years, having been wrongly diagnosed as a schizophrenic, has returned - as a senior member of the hospital administratin.

A 6' 4" pensioner died 'probably' as a result of injuries incurred through repeatedly hitting his head on the low doorframes of his cottage.

In a recent compilation of 'the 10 drugs you can most easily get hooked on' Caffeine came 5th.

After a yellow Renault exploded outside an African National Congress house in Bulawayo a medical report said the body inside was so badly destroyed that it couldn't even be identified as male or female. But Victor Ndlovu, testifying, stated: "I positively identified the foot. Obert Mwaya used to walk barefoot, so I knew his feet."

Testicular cancer is the commonest form of cancer in men aged 20 to 34. A 50% rise in the last 15 to 20 years.

Retarded Chinese are to face compulsory sterilisation in a bid to relieve 'a great burden to society'. One province alone estimates that over 250,000 of its population are mentally handicapped.

58% of men and 76% of women over 75 complain of problem feet.

Scottish men are 28% more likely to commit suicide than English or Welsh men.

An 80-year-old pensioner has presented an Eastbourne museum with a collection of pre-war condoms.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEALTH WISE

For every 1 degree that the thermometer falls below the winter average of 5c (41F) an extra 8,000 people will die in Britain's winters.

A Mr. Sam Crabbe, 108, gave up smoking when he was 100 years old.

A Thai soldier had the world's first penis transplant after his was cut off by a jealous wife. His only complaint is that the new organ is two inches shorter than the old one.

Following a strike by hospital employees in Sri Lanka, 500 patients escaped from a psychiatric hospital and fled to the tree tops for a sing-song.

Psychologists have shown that people who wear glasses actually hear better when they've got their glasses on.

China could soon have over ONE HUNDRED MILLION people with no teeth - because 4 out of 5 people never brush them.

A recent study has shown that fair skinned children living in sunny climes are up to nine times more likely to get cancer.

Tobacco related disease cost the NHS around 500 million a year. BUT the income to the government in taxation is up at 12 TIMES that figure.

Britain's smokers buy 100 million cigarettes a year - an average of 11 each per week. At the present rate one smoker in 175 will die this year from smoking related diseases.

In 1966 there was one female alcoholic to 10 men in this country. Now the figure is 2 women for every 1 man.

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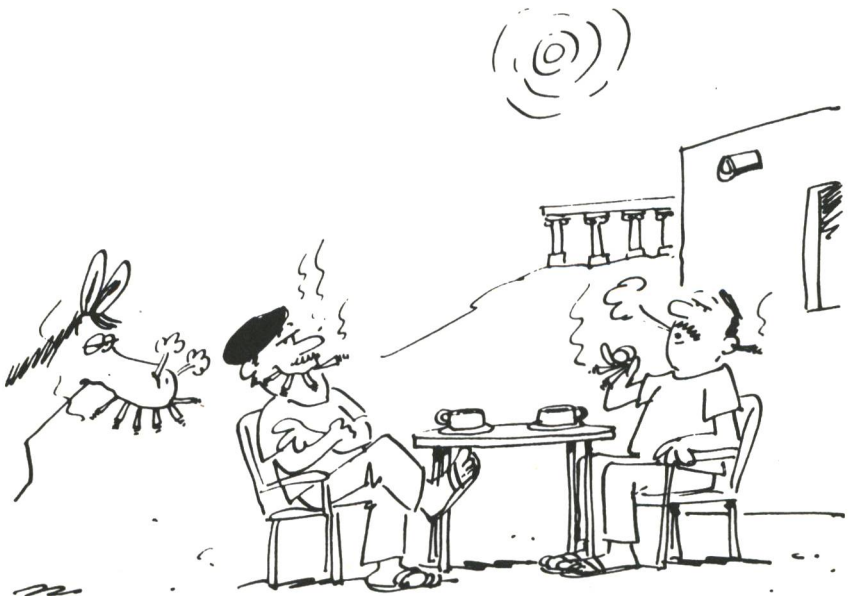
HEALTH WISE

When an army of volunteers dredged rubbish out of Sydney harbour recently, more than 3,000 drug syringes were discovered.

Glass splinters which pierced a man's face in a road accident 35 YEARS AGO have re-appeared out of his bottom. The sliver popped out when his wife squeezed what they thought was a boil.

A Portuguese gardener who sliced off his private part with a hedgetrimmer, had it successfully sewn back on by surgeons.

The heaviest smokers in the western world are the Greeks. They smoke around 27.6 BILLION cigarettes each year.



TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEALTH WISE

A Chinese regional newspaper reported the story of a female dwarf who castrated her 5'10" husband using a pair of scissors. Apparently, the emasculated man has since become an expert on performing organ transplants.

If a cure for cancer were found life expectancy would increase by about two years.

Smokers in this country are once more on the increase. Government figures show that cigarette consumption is now rising by 2.2% per year - the first upward movement since the mid 1960's.

In Moscow 1 person in 3,700 is reckoned to be a drug user. In New York the figure is calculated to be 1 in 32.

The Spanish smoke a higher proportion of high tar cigarettes than any other country in the EEC - 93% against Britain's 18%.

Planned EEC directives on maximum tar content of cigarettes will leave one member country, Denmark, with the task of changing ALL of its cigarettes. The Danish, apparently, smoke NO low tar cigarettes.

An electromagnetic expert has claimed that radar waves and radiation from power lines could trigger cot deaths.

It is estimated that 1 patient in 10 will pick up an infection while in hospital.

A tragic housewife who weighed 40 stone tripped over a carpet in her home and couldn't get up. It took 18 men three hours to lift her and get her into an ambulance. Unhappily, she died in hospital.

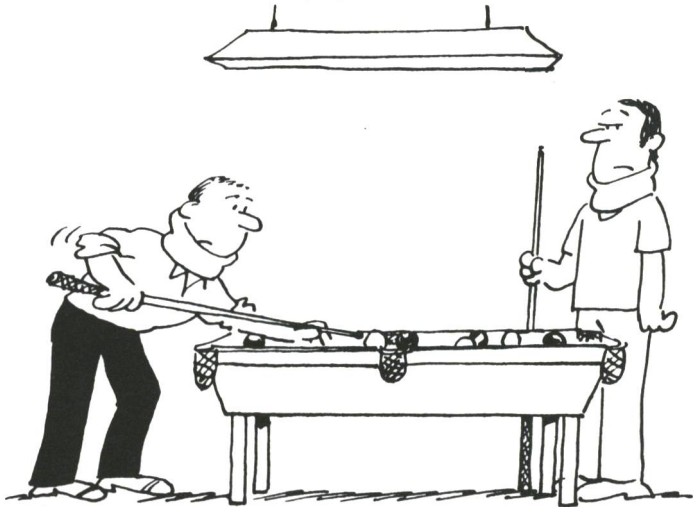
Whilst the family of an 83 year-old man were mourning his death he phoned them from the hospital to say that he was still alive. Although certified dead by a doctor and taken off, a policeman found a pulse and revived him. The delighted family's celebrations were short lived, though, he died two days later.

HEALTH WISE

A report recently undertaken states that one third of pensioners who go into hospital leave in a worse condition than when they first went in.

Pensioner Joan Brown went onto the waiting list for a tonsils operation in 1939 -she's still waiting.

California reports an upsurge in a medical condition known as 'nine-ball neck'. It's caused by twisting the head whilst playing snooker.



A Bristol dispatch rider caused chaos on the M6 recently when his load of hypodermic syringes fell off. A total of 141 vehicles received punctures.

Doctors in Los Angeles recently had to pay 1,000,000 pounds damages to a patient. They had taken out his wrong kidney - because they'd looked at his x-ray plates from the wrong side.

If you never cut your toe-nails they would be 1ft 11ins long by the time you were 65.

Drug tests carried out recently on bus and train drivers in New York found that 67 of them were using cocaine or marijuana.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JARGON & TWADDLE?

So long as the British Left believes that one has to be either procrustean and obscurantist or 'female marxist daleks' who can blithely reject biological realities and environmental constraints, the real socialist arguments go by default. Perestroika is not a Russian necessity but an intellectual necessity for left wing philosophy and science universally. There is precious little of it in Britain, whichever party one considers. (Marxism Today, letters page).

JARGON & TWADDLE?

When Ruth Rendells' 'Shake Hands Forever' was serialised recently, the announcer always frenchified her name into RenDELL. Mrs Rendell has assured the Sunday Telegraph that she is in fact (as everybody has always said before) 'Ruth RENdell'. (Sunday Telegraph)

JARGON & TWADDLE?

Like everything else in Washington, there are racial overtones to snow clearance. (Punch)

JARGON & TWADDLE?

Apocalyptic Nihilism was finally embraced by the "Establishment" in Paris when the collection of Tristan Tzara, the poet founder of Dada, came up for auction (Independent)

JARGON & TWADDLE

The SIS reports to the Joint Intelligence committee (JIC), the Overseas Economic Intelligence Committee (OEIC) & the Co-ordinator of Intelligence & Security (CIS) in the Cabinet Office. MI5 reports to OEIC, CIS & the Official Committee on Security (OCS). GCHQ reports to JIC, OEIC, CIS & the London Signal Intelligence Board (LSIB). DIS reports to JIC, OEIC, & CIS. JIC, OEIC, CIS, .LSIB & OCS report to PSIS & the PM. CIS reports to PSIS & the PM. LSIS reports to PSIS & the PM, as does OCS. (Independent)

JARGON & TWADDLE

But I finally got one (a personal organiser) simply because I noticed that everyone who had one had a togetherness that I wanted to emulate. (Marxism Today - letters page)

ALTERNATIVE HISTORY

The Pathan tribes of Afghanistan were originally two tribes from Israel.

After the battle of Culloden the name McGregor was banned.

When William of Orange landed at Torbay in 1688 (the 83rd Anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot) one third of his army were Roman Catholics.

Nicholas J. Pelletier, convicted of theft and violence, was the first man to be guillotined in France - on April 25th. 1792.

In the early 17th century in Worcester jail, a prisoner called Packer was married to the gaoler's daughter - by the gaoler. The daughter was recorded as being 'under 12'. Packer died the same day, 'presently after the marriage'.

Paul Revere wasn't a Texan but his horse was.

Astronomer Dennis Rawlins has deciphered long suppressed documents that show Robert Peary's discovery of the North pole in 1909 was an exaggeration. He got no closer than 105 nautical miles to the Pole but lied 'because he didn't want to go home a failure'.

In 1870, when the bicycle cost 3 month's wages - the speed limit was a giddy 14mph.

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne, in 1837, no-one had ever heard of Santa Claus.

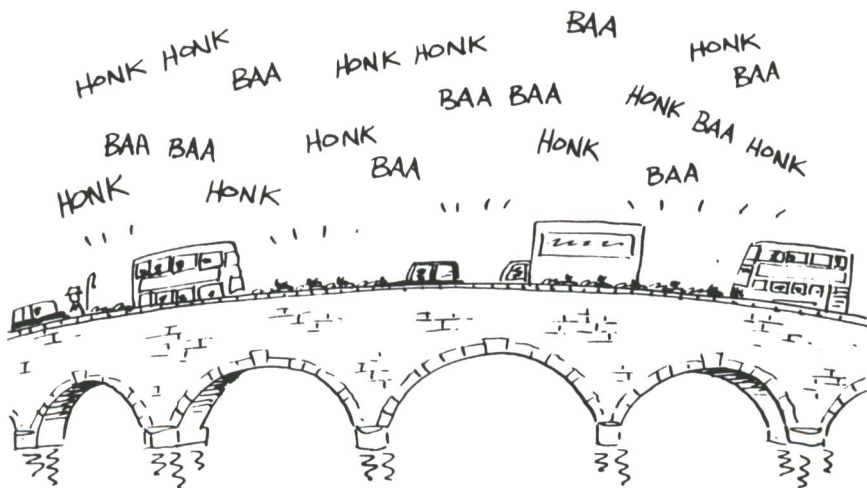
Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas from 1644 until 1660 - because it was a pagan celebration.

Cleopatra, queen of Egypt, had absolutely no Egyptian blood in her. She was basically Greek with Macedonian, Persian and Syrian blood.

According to the ancient prophet, Nostradamus, a nuclear war will devastate the world on August 28th, 1999.

During the first convict crossing to Australia in 1787 eight children were born.

Sweden switched it's traffic from driving on the left to driving on the right overnight. On September 3/4 1967.



During the London Cholera epidemic of 1854 it is recorded that the death rate in orthodox hospitals was 53.2% whereas in the London Homeopathic hospital it was only 16.2%.

Soup kitchens for the poor were first opened in London on January 7th. 1800.

Queen Elizabeth I is recorded as having attended a bear baiting at which 13 bears were killed.

ALTERNATIVE HISTORY

The English colonised Barbados in 1625.

James II came to the throne of Great Britain on February 6th. 1685.

Surveys have shown that commuting was quicker in Rome in 1880 than it is now.

Brazil abolished slavery in 1888.

In 1922 the Canterbury Watch Committee - then in charge of the police force - demoted the chief constable to the rank of sergeant. He had been charged with corrupt practices (obtaining free rides from the local bus company).

Horatio Nelson's daughter was called Horatia. she was born to Lady Hamilton in 1801.

On February 6th. 1918 women were granted the vote in this country - so long as they were over 30.

Madame la guillotine, symbol of revolutionary France, had actually been used long before as a form of execution in Italy, Germany, Scotland - and Yorkshire.

The only English Pope, Nicholas Breakspear, died in 1159 after swallowing a bumble bee.

The famous Box Brownie camera was first manufactured in 1900.

The first convoy of convict ships to Australia comprised 11 vessels.

Freemen of the City of London have the right to drive sheep across London Bridge.

Tintin, the cartoon hero, was born in 1929.

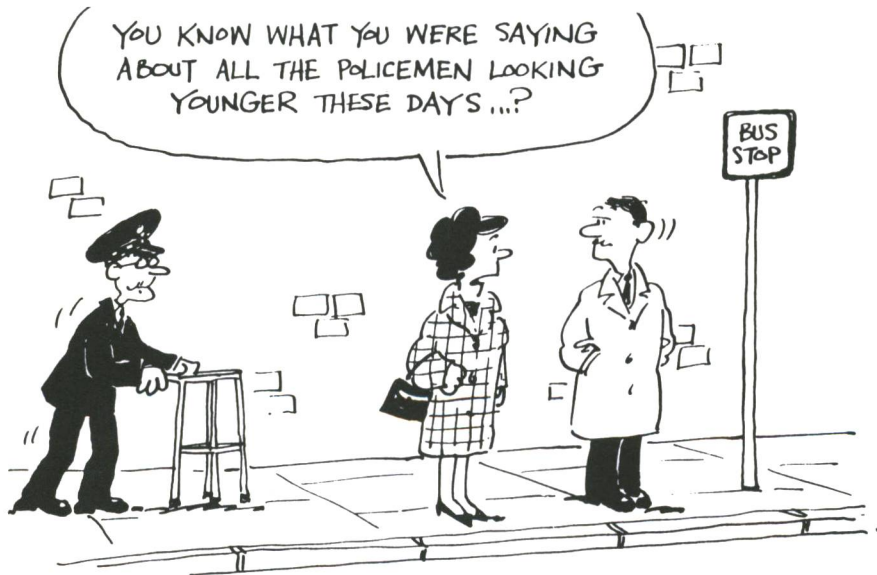
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

ALTERNATIVE HISTORY

Catherine I became Empress of Russia on February 8th. 1725.

France and Britain reached agreement on the Channel Tunnel in February 1964.

Britain's longest serving chief constable was James Kellie-MacCallum who retired from Northamptonshire in 1931, aged 86, after spending 50 years in office.



Experts from Burke's peerage claim that the remains of King Arthur's round table are to be found in Scotland. The remains are buried under an old slag heap at an old iron works near Stirling.

The last British troops left India on 28th. February 1948.

HUMOUR???

From the letter page of the 'Weekly Gleaner'. Q. *'Is it true that there is some kind of inflatable bra which can make a girl's bust look bigger?'* A. *'There used to be such a device, but they kept blowing up in aircraft. So I do not think they are marketed any more.'*

Hungary is to build a £30 million leisure park called 'Fanni-world'.

A Rugby player who bit the head off a dead lizard in a packed pub said, according to the Sun, "I was as drunk as a newt."



Stoke council have spent £25,000 on their new loos - to install nappy changing facilities in the gents.

In an 'Irish Against Immigration' march one young man bore a placard saying: *'If you leave, can I have your girlfriend?'*

A pool table repair man had to be called back to a pub in Torquay - he'd locked the landlord's cat inside the machine.

British Gas sent an invitation to a lady to come and view new fires. Not only had the lady been dead for 6 months but the letter was addressed to: Miss M. Hord, Deceased.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

He boosted our morale. Even on his death bed he worried about the rice crop.
(Akinori Kitano. Japanese farmer, about Hirohito).

My jump today was the longest I've ever done. I panicked because it was going so well. (Eddie Edwards, from his hospital bed).

All military rulers have the same smirk on their faces. (Fidel Castro - interview in Asian Times).

Q. How do you define live sex, sergeant? A. Sex between two people who are not dead, sir. (Cross questioning during a court-martial after a striptease show at a British army base in West Germany).

I have been pulled off the back of a motor-bike by my hair to make me throw my head back so photographers could get a picture. (Koo Stark)

People like me and Frank Carson are a hard act to follow. (Bernard Manning).

What are men there for except to make themselves charming to me. (Barbara Cartland).

Nobody can do what Jocky Wilson does. He is one of the few dart players who can have a few drinks and still do it. (Eric Bristow).

It was my pleasure to itch for the Princess of Wales (Dr. Reduan Mogbel, pricked with fluid from a house-dust bug to show the princess what the rash looked like).

That guy Julian Cleary is a prancing poof (Jimmy Greaves).

It wasn't supposed to go up in flames until Saturday night (Bernard Manning, after his nightclub burnt down).

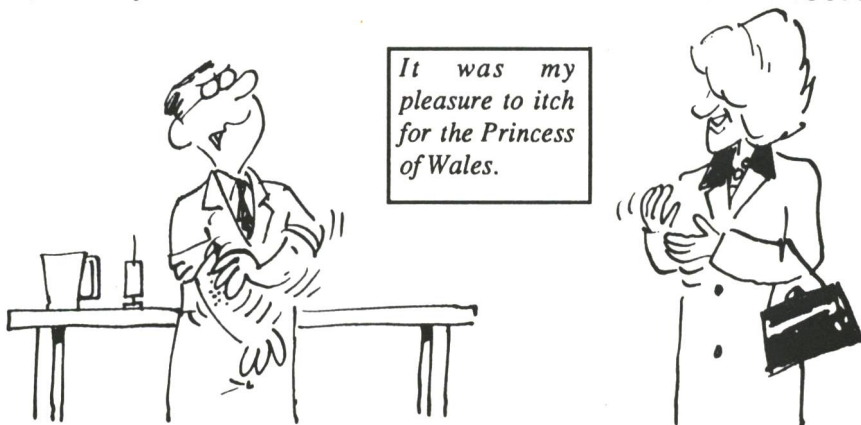
JAPAN

The Japanese parliament is called the 'Diet'.

The Japanese are now buying 40% of valuable paintings sold by the West.

Japan had its own court language until the 1930's, unintelligible to anyone outside court circles.

Japan imported 43% more diamonds in 1988 than in 1987.



The Taiyo Kobe bank in Japan was robbed of around £1.5 million when a thief drove off in an unattended bank van.

Following the death of Emperor Hirohito, the Japanese calendar has restarted at Year one.

According to statistics, the chances of immediately surviving internment as a Japanese POW during the second world war were 3 in 4.

The new emperor, Akihito, gets a salary of £1.3 millions, tax-free, and 'court expenses' of £13 millions.

The Regimental secretary of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers refused to fly the Union Jack at half mast to mark Emperor Hirohito's death.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JAPAN

Before Emperor Hirohito's coffin was closed, placed in it were bags of tea leaves to act as a dessicant.

Emperor Hirohito was well known for his book on marine zoology: *Opisthobranchia of Sagami Bay*.

When the funeral of Emperor Meiji was held in 1912, Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, attended for Britain. He was greeted by General Nogi who then went home and committed harakiri, as was expected of a samurai, so that he could continue to serve his master after death.



A Japanese trading company has paid \$154,00 dollars for the piano used in the movie 'Casablanca'.

The late emperor, Hirohito, was introduced to alcohol and women by his father at the age of 11. As a result Hirohito later banned concubines from his court.

The government imposed a compulsory ban on merriment in government departments on the death of emperor Hirohito.

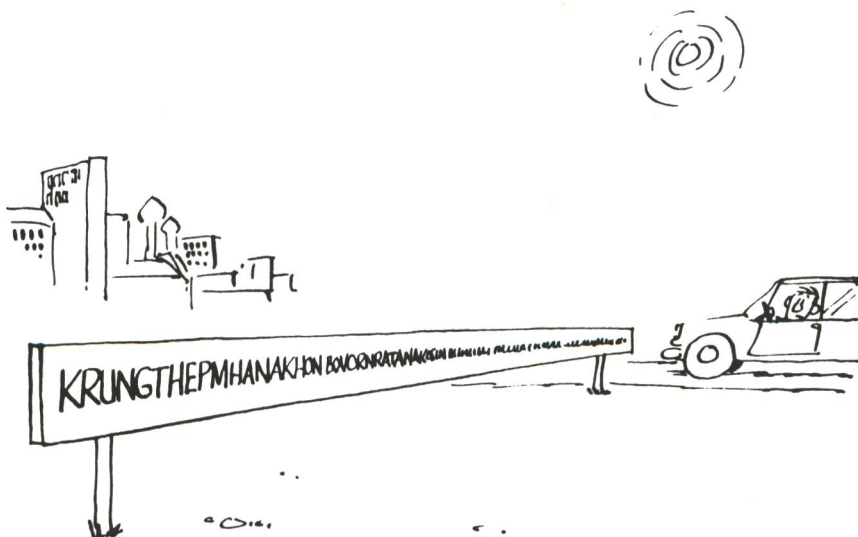
Apart from members of the imperial royal family it is not possible for any Japanese to be buried. They must be cremated.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LANGUAGE

Brinkles - is now officially in the English language. It is the name for the marks left on your face when you have slept on a crumpled pillow.

Bangkok's real name is: *Krungthepmahanakhon Bovornratanakosin Mahintharayutthaya Mahadilokpop Noparatratchathaniburirom Udomratchanivetmahasathan Amornpimanavatarnsathit Sakkathattiyavisnukarmprasit* (**Great city of angels, supreme repository for the divine jewels, great land unconquerable, grand and prominent realm, the royal and delightful city full of nine noble gems, the highest royal dwelling and grand palace, the divine shelter and living place of the reincarnated spirits.**)



Dr. Samuel Morse may be the inventor of the expression O.K. That was the distorted signal received when a test signal, a series of dots, was sent. It was received as DOT DOT DASH DOT DASH, American Morse code for OK.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

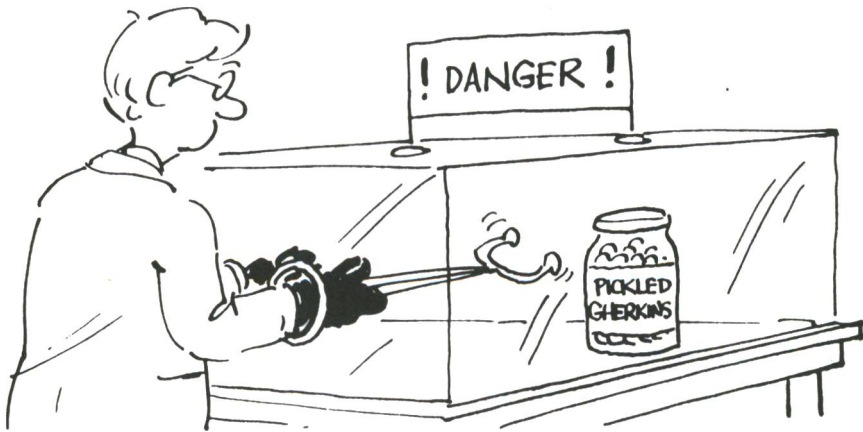
LANGUAGE

The Masai word for God, Ngai, also means 'rain'.

Because of an error due to the Danish word for Austrian - Östrigsk - and East German - Östtysk - being so similar, an East German company was asked to help build secret hangars designed to hide NATO aircraft from Warsaw pact attack.

One of the dialects of Mongolia is 'Santa'.

France has officially banned thousands of English words that have been creeping into the language. for example: Le Ferry and Le Jumbo Jet.



Coca Cola's slogan *'It's the Real Thing'* translates into Chinese as *'The Elephant bites the Wax Duck'*.

As part of their TV advertising campaign Nike Sports Shoes got a tribesman from the Samburu of Kenya to mouth their slogan *'Just Do It'*. An anthropologist, however, has reported that the man is actually saying *'I don't want these, give me big shoes'*.

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HEADLINES

■ **ACTRESS FIGHTS OFF ALIEN SEX SPY.**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **ELVES' PAY UPSETS SANTA CLAUS**

(Daily Telegraph, Santas in Australia have taken action against several department stores because 'elves' are being paid more).

■ **I SAW CHEF CHOPPING UP HIS BOSS.**

(Sun , report on a passerby who saw a Chinese chef killing his boss with a meat cleaver).

■ **WORLD WAR II BOMBER FOUND IN SPACE**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **PERSISTENT FETAL CIRCULATION AND
EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION**

(Lancet).

■ **WILLY AND FOO FOO TAKE A STROLL**

(New Yorker, advert for a brooch showing a tyrannosaurus Rex with a parasol taking a poodle for a walk).

■ **BINMAN TURNS INTO DOG.**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **£60 MILLION HOUSE SOLD FOR £75,000.**

(Daily Telegraph, on a story concerning the sale of a 150 room mansion to the Indian government).

■ **SOW RESIGNS**

(West Africa, on the resignation of the president of the Senegalese National Assmebly, Dr. Daouda Sow).

■ **SAD TO LOSE TWO FLEET STREET PROS.**

(UK Press Gazette, on the retirement of two long serving reporters).

■ **EXPLODING GHERKINS DEFUSED.**

(Daily Telegraph, how biotechnologists have found a way to stop gherkins occasionally exploding when consumers remove the lid of their containers).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LEGAL NOTES

The door of a public call box iced up as a woman was making a call and she had to dial 999 to get firemen to come and rescue her.

A deserter was sentenced to 10 days detention in a town's public lavatory in Gryos, Switzerland, because no jail was available. Another soldier was given 4 days in a broom cupboard.



In some English police forces at the turn of this century it was a felony for a uniformed officer to remove his helmet.

Hiker Jeffrey Morgan was fined £300 for being drunk up a mountain.

A hungry burglar, in Enna, Sicily, died after breaking into a villa and raiding the fridge. It was full of poisonous food prepared for baiting rat traps.

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LEGAL NOTES

A householder who fired two warning shots to frighten off burglars who forced their way into his home was jailed for two years.

Hampshire police were looking for a naked man, wearing only a balaclava, who tried to burgle a house.

P.C. Dick Williams refused orders from his control room to report to the scene of a hit and run accident. He was the one who'd been knocked down.

Thieves stole two handbags in Dublin city centre. They were from a bronze statue and weighed a hundredweight each.

Thieves stole a seven ton tanker full of manure in Coxbench, Cheshire but police are reported to be on the scent.

There were 201 murders in New York during August 1988 - an increase on the previous year of 75%.

A Luxembourg court recently banned a drunk driver - for 91 years.

A youth, turned away from a nightclub for wearing trainers, kicked in the window of a nearby shoe shop and grabbed two shoes. Police had no trouble spotting him because he'd pinched two left feet, in different sizes and different styles.

Nearly 1,800 Indian brides are estimated to have been murdered in 1987 - because the dowry they brought into their marriages wasn't enough.

A Toronto man has been accused of murder. He had driven to his mother-in-law's home, beaten her with an iron bar and stabbed her 27 times with a Sabatier kitchen knife. He claimed to have done it whilst asleep and having a nightmare.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LEGAL NOTES

MacPhunn of Drip was a Scottish laird who fell on hard times and was hanged for sheep stealing. His wife collected the body and, while rowing across Loch Fyne with it, noticed signs of life. Being heavily pregnant she was able to mix some of her milk with a little whisky and revived her husband. He recovered completely and lived to a ripe old age.

A wheelchair bound mugger in Sicily snatched a woman's purse and fled. He was, obviously, quickly caught and sentenced to four months in prison.



Store detectives in Colchester caught a man peeping up women's skirts - with the aid of a mirror fixed to the toe of his shoe.

A well intentioned citizen in Sydney, Australia, scooped up her dog's droppings and deposited them in a plastic bag for later disposal. Unfortunately, she had it snatched by a mugger.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LEGAL NOTES

A Los Angeles policeman has been fined after a disciplinary hearing. His offence was assault by 'felonious flatulence'. Two prisoners, whom he'd just handcuffed insisted he'd done it deliberately, although the officer claimed it was his upset stomach.

It costs about £275 per week to keep a prisoner in an English jail. The figure for Northern Ireland is close to £1,000.

It is estimated that 6% of the British prison population are dependent on drugs.

The practising of clairvoyance 'for gain' is illegal in Jersey.

It is estimated that over £4,000,000 worth of NHS equipment is stolen every year.

In Australia, it is reckoned that half the prison population is serving time for drug related crimes.

Under Chinese law adultery with the spouse of a member of the armed forces is a crime.

For each football match played in the first division there are 5.3 arrests. 3.5 times greater than the number of arrests in third division matches.

A Los Angeles deputy sheriff who claimed damages and a disability pension now faces 4 years jail instead. Investigators filmed him 'bending, stooping and gyrating' as a dancer and male stripper in a night club.

A Chicago businessman flew into Miami for a week's stay. A robber jumped into the cab taking him from the airport and shot the driver dead. The taxi smashed into a shopfront with the dead driver at the wheel, injuring the businessman, and someone stole his briefcase while he was waiting for help. He went home.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LEGAL NOTES

A police officer called to a Bridgwater house to investigate suspicious noises reported back to the embarrassed lady that the row was being caused by her two rabbits mating.

New York - murder capital of the world - managed to survive 41 minutes of 1989 before its first killing took place. If that rate were to continue throughout the year it would have 89,736 murders.

In Kentucky, America, a lucky armed robber has had his sentence cut by 80% on appeal. The appeal court judge felt that his 5,005 year sentence had been too harsh - and cut it to 1,001 years.

A clumsy burglar in Gloucester made it easy for police to get his fingerprints. He cut his finger off on some broken glass - and left it behind.

The last person to be punished in the stocks in this country was a drunken rag and bone man in Reading in 1872.

Fox baiting in England is legal.

It is illegal in England to charge people admission to dances on a Sunday.

An Iranian court sentenced a multi-millionaire to death AND 74 lashes.

There is an assault or mugging every 3.6 minutes in England and Wales.

The prison population of England and Wales always drops at the end of December.

In Australia there have been 103 Aboriginal fatalities [suicides?] in police custody since 1980.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
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LEGAL NOTES

A psychologist has claimed that TV encourages pub punch-ups.

A would be rapist in a Coventry park was forced to flee when his intended victim's dog bit him on his privates.

An intruder at a British Steel Works stole - the £2,000 security camera.

Jesus was arrested for being drunk and disorderly in Surrey - Jesus Campo, that is.

The number of prisoners in England and Wales on January 1st. 1989 was 48,290 - a drop against the previous year of 1.3%.

The youngest holder of a shotgun licence in England is - a NINE YEAR OLD boy.

A missing woman, who disappeared without any reason for three years, was found dead in her unused freezer at her home in Michigan, USA.

In Los Angeles during 1988, 353 people were killed in inter-gang violence. Police say that the use of semi-automatic rifles, AK-47's and Uzi sub machine guns is becoming commonplace in gang warfare.

A 'boy' caned for dodging school in Dallas, Texas, was an undercover police officer. He daren't say anything to the headmaster in case he blew his cover.

Incest has only been punishable as a criminal offence in England since 1908.

Between July 1987 and March 1988 a total of 16,023 people were strip searched by HM Customs. Drugs were found in 586 cases (3.65%).

During 1988 no licences were granted in the UK for the export of leg irons, shackles or gallows.

LEGAL NOTES

The highest speed clocked up on a motorcycle on a public road in this country is 134mph. Shlomo Moaron, the guilty party, said when stopped: 'Is there a speed limit for bikes?'

Anthony Mba is taking a shop in Connecticut, USA to court. They refused to accept his American Express gold card because they said his surname was a degree and not a name.

A would be rapist in West Germany died of a heart attack after tying his intended victim to a tree. She was found the next morning, having been tied up all night while her assailant lay dead by her feet.

A boozy 'lager-lout' is returning the beer glass he stole during a pre-match drinking session - in 1923.

Nice police have been looking for an impatient gunman. He shot two brothers, killing one, who were using a public phone when he was waiting to make a call from it.

An proposed EEC directive states that trawlers away from shore for under 24 hours should carry 100 condoms (enough for 7 crew) and, if away for over 24 hours, they must carry 250.

The type of gun used by Patrick Purdy, in America, to massacre 35 children is being snapped up by the public. One retailer claimed it was selling so well because it was '*trendy and fun to shoot*'.

A burglar in Mississippi has been jailed for stealing two cans of sardines in a shop and then attempting to steal the money to pay for them. His sentence, against which he is appealing, was - life imprisonment.

Magistrates cleared a 19 year-old welder of disorderly conduct after they accepted his story that the arresting officer had been having sex with a woman special constable down an alleyway.

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TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LEGAL NOTES

Los Angeles police recently tackled the case of a woman who killed her husband. She did so because she 'knew' he was turning into Mickey Mouse and she was terrified that, if she allowed that to happen, she'd turn into Minnie.

To bring its police force back to the levels enjoyed in 1833, Avon & Somerset would need to increase their strength from 3020 to 5723.

The youngest chief constable this country has ever had was F. G. Ward. He was elected chief constable to Lancaster City whilst only 25 years old. He had started his career as the youngest constable - at the age of 16 years and 4 months.

In 1829 the English police force patrolled every street every ten minutes. The theory was, that no matter where you stood, help would be with you almost immediately. To achieve the same coverage nowadays the force would require a further 83,017 officers.

The president of Tanzania has decided to disarm most policemen on daylight patrols. Too many officers were having their guns stolen by criminals.

South Carolina prison reports the case of a prisoner who was 'reprieved' from death in the electric chair. He was sitting naked on a metal commode, mending his TV set when he bit into a live wire and electrocuted himself.

Thieves recently broke into a shop inside Canterbury jail.

The Bolivian 'King of cocaine' Roberto Suarez, has settled into the routine of prison life following his recent incarceration. The poor chap has 11 personal bodyguards with him in his private rooms, to make sure he is not disturbed unnecessarily.

Traffic wardens in Oklahoma City stuck 12 parking tickets on a car over a 3 day period. None of them noticed that the driver was dead at the wheel.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
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LEGAL NOTES

Thousands of detainees in Nigerian prison cells face starvation. Contractors who supply their food are threatening to halt deliveries. They say they haven't been paid for 6 years.

During 1988 there were 6,228 prosecutions in Britain for social security frauds. For tax frauds the number was slightly lower - 15!



*I probably represent
more sheep than any
other member of the
House.*

Did I say that?!?

I redistributed my hair on socialist principles (John Cleese).

I can get a better paying job, but New York can't get a better mayor. (Ed Koch - mayor of New York).

They say hard work never killed anyone, but why take the risk? (Ronald Reagan).

He is quite capable of leading the Labour Party on his own. He does not need my advice or my help to do his job. (Glenys Kinnock).

I probably represent more sheep than any other member of the House (Dr. Dafydd Ellis Thomas, MP).

The late Emperor [Hirohito] was a remarkable heaven-sent child of the human race. His life was a fine example which should be followed by everyone. (Ibrahim Babangida, president of Nigeria).

Some people say they can exist on four hours' sleep. If they try to do it they must be stupid. (Ted Heath - Mrs Thatcher is known to flourish on 4 hours' sleep).

I am not really outrageous and don't live a wild life-style. I have always been quite an introvert really. (Julian Clary).

I have always supported the police in their job and will continue to do so. (Brian Clough, after punching 3 fans who invaded the pitch after a football match).

Statistically, you would have to live to the age of 360 before you could expect to be mugged on our streets. (John Burrows, chief constable of Essex).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LOVING FEELINGS

An elopement by a love struck couple has been reported in Calabria, Italy. The pair, chimpanzees, have eloped from the zoo.

Ferdinand Marcos and his wife-to-be, Imelda, eloped after an 11 day courtship.

William Shakespeare's marriage to Anne Hathaway was a shotgun wedding. Miss Hathaway was pregnant at the time.

If you lived in Florida (Xmas 1988) the traditional 12 gifts 'my true love gave to me' would set you back £4187.97.

A record number of couples married at Gretna Green during 1988 - 1,478.

Filipino John Rupert had the name of every woman he'd slept with tattooed on his body. Number 543 is now his wife.

The Kama Sutra advises lovers to tie a gold painted peacock's feather to their right hands as the perfect aphrodisiac.

Newlyweds showing off their wedding photos were arrested for publishing obscene literature. The official snaps had, mixed in with them, saucy snaps of the couple making love. When they were passed round at their local pub someone informed the police - who arrested the husband.

Radio 4 recently had a new broadcasting 'first' - the sound of two tortoises making love on a hearthrug.

An average 1988 wedding cost £4,727.

A sailor who took his 'girlfriend' for a quiet drink at Glasgow's Queen Street Station upset women passengers. His 'girlfriend' clad in skimpy clothes, was a blow up doll.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

LOVING FEELINGS

It is reported that as many as 1,000 females on the californian sea board are subject to the whims of a single, rampant male. An estimated one third of their offspring suffer death by being crushed beneath writhing bodies. We are talking, of course, about the elephant seal.

Snails mate only once in a lifetime - but they have the consolation of knowing that it can last for up to 12 hours.



The average wedding reception in Britain in 1988 was for 103 guests at a cost of £8 per head.

A witch doctor in Guinea, West Africa, has been jailed for swindling a woman out of £3,000. The potion she bought from him to keep her straying husband at home at night didn't work. She discovered that the same witch doctor had sold her husband a potion -for £10,000 - to make him irresistible to women.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JARGON & TWADDLE?

Anglo-Saxons, modern ones anyway, tend to worry too much to enjoy dullness, or that superior and organised form of dullness called 'spleen', noia etc. For the author of The Leopard - so emphatically not a dull writer, indeed a gloriously vivid one - dullness, at all events, was the very stuff of his existence. (Independent).

JARGON & TWADDLE

If I have a cavil it is that Josipovici does at times become dogmatic in his refusal of dogmatism (Independent)

JARGON & TWADDLE

..many prominent persons billed to appear, such as Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, Ghanaian poet Atukwei Okai, Chief Arthur Nwanko and newspaper mogul Chief M. K. O. Abiola, were conspicuously absent. (West Africa).

JARGON & TWADDLE

"I'm writing to thank you for your book 'How to talk with the dead'. I am really delighted with it. It does work! I was afraid - may I be forgiven - that it was a con, having been unfortunate with mediums in the past, but I had success first time. (PsychicNews, Advert).

JARGON & TWADDLE

The transnational enemy of women is transnational capitalism, in the specific form of patriarchal capitalist society. (Spare Rib).

JARGON & TWADDLE

Surprisingly, however, Lutoslawski's current standing as Poland's great modern master rests upon a relatively slim corpus of works whose often difficult and protracted gestation belies the seeming spontaneity of his musical invention. (Independent).

JARGON & TWADDLE

We must not run towards a form of sentimental primitivism to seek consolation, but humanise our bureaucratically based, rational, scientific procedures to see that they are practised with warmth, understanding, sympathy and, above all, with a personal touch (Independent).

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MONEY MATTERS

US tax officials sent a £200,000 cheque to a man serving 5 years for fraud in an Alabama jail. By the time they discovered their mistake he'd spent all but £30,00 of his windfall.



Candy Spelling's [wife of 'Dynasty' producer Aaron Spelling] new house cost the equivalent of 384 average UK homes. Her personal bedroom measures 70 feet by 70 feet.

Contrary to popular reports, Imelda Marcos possessed 'only' 1,102 pairs of shoes.

Imelda Marcos spent the equivalent of a British postman's wages for 4 years - on flowers in ONE WEEK in New York.

During his first year as President, John Kennedy's wife, Jackie's personal expenditure was 5% MORE than his salary. Following an economy drive she finished the second year spending 21% MORE than his salary.

At Wilkes-Bashford mens store in San Francisco a pair of crocodile slip-on shoes sells for \$1,000.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MONEY MATTERS

A businessman donated his £71,000 Ferrari to BBC's 'Children in Need' appeal - in exchange for a record being played on Radio 2 for him.

For her third birthday Athina Onassis, the 'poor little rich girl' was given a sheepdog - together with a flock of sheep and a shepherd.

Athina Onassis costs an estimated £4,300,000 a year to guard against possible kidnap attempts.

A photo of Marilyn Monroe fetched £2,800 at an auction in Nottingham.

Han Young Ja was South Korea's highest earner in 1988 - \$7.3 million. Her business was boosted by the Olympic games - she is the president of a firm making teargas.

The Citizen's Advice Bureau in Plymouth fell into debt - through helping people with debt problems.

A mansion with 17 bedrooms, set in 3.5 acres of grounds is for sale near Stirling - for £50,000.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia sent his beach buggy back to the coach builders to be restored. It had cost 250,000 pounds to convert the Rolls-Royce Camargue and another 60,000 was needed to restore it to its original condition.

The most profitable Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in the world is in China.

The biggest lottery in the world is Spain's 'El Gordo', paying out around £50,000,000.

The official currency of Sierra Leone is - the Leone.

Christies recently sold a clockwork toy train at auction - for £19,800.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MONEY MATTERS

The Savoy Hotel employs 2 staff for each guest.

The Lilangeni - the coinage of Swaziland - is identical in weight, size and colour to the British £1 coin. The main difference is that one Lilangeni is worth less than 20p.

Derek Jameson is now reckoned to be the highest paid entertainer on British TV.

The owners of a Californian crematorium are alleged to have made up to £1,000 a week selling gold teeth to a local jeweller. They are also said to have sold eyes and brains. Their son drives a car with the numberplate I BURN 4U.

Britain's smallest mortgage is believed to be one of £28 - granted to purchase a home for a mouse.



TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MONEY MATTERS

The average undertakers bill in England is £586 and is growing faster than inflation.

Venezuala's coinage is now worth less than half the value of the nickel it contains.

VIP 1, the most upmarket numberplate in the world, was recently offered for sale - for £100,000.

The chief of Disney Studios had a salary of £400,000 in 1988, BUT with bonuses he earned a further £22,500,000. Since joining Disney four years ago his salary has multiplied 27 TIMES.

Prince Abdullah Ibn Abd al-Aziz has left his Paris apartment because it's too small. Its size is equivalent to 40 rooms 10' x 12'.

In England the 'over-60's' hold 59% of the nation's savings.

The Swiss have the largest bank accounts in Europe. The average citizen has savings of £20,000.

The richest 1% of the population of Britain owns 24% of the wealth.

The car number plate BBC1 was recently offered to the BBC. The asking price? £27,990.

The currency of Angola is the Kwanza. The Currency of Zaire is - the Zaire and the currency of Mauritania is the Ouguiya.

At the turn of this century the average mortgage is expected to be £140,000 - however beer will only double in price.

The biggest rock or pop concert in USA during 1988 was given by 'The Grateful Dead'. who grossed \$2,896,369 at Madison Square Gardens.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MONEY MATTERS

The TSB at Jarrow wrongly loaded their cash dispenser with £20 notes instead of £10 notes. Unfortunately for the customers who withdrew the money, the bank had records of them all and wrote asking for the excess money to be returned.

A report has just been published called "The future of the UK to 2010". By a company called Applied Futures, the report costs £2,200 per copy.

A 28 year-old stock market speculator is reported to have increased his £9,700 stake to £3,500,000 in ten weeks. One leading dealer is said to have commented: 'The man must have nerves of steel. He should have pulled out much earlier. In fact, he's a total idiot'.

The TSB, who banned deposits under £5, were fooled by people who paid in £5 and then withdrew £4.

The largest amount of cash stolen and subsequently returned safely was HALF A MILLION DOLLARS. It was paid in ransom in Indiana, USA, but dropped by a parachuting hijacker.

Leaking water mains cost England and Wales £360 million a year as 260 Billion gallons of purified water is lost.

The biggest spender on press advertising during 1988 was the MFI/Hygena group, who spent a reported £16,618,000.

A Swiss millionaire killed three people off the coast of Nice when his speedboat ploughed into a small sailing vessel. He sped off after the 'accident' because he didn't want to miss an important business meeting. He received a suspended sentence.

A gentleman in California possesses 1,199 credit cards, giving him a credit limit of over £800,000.

Carling Black Label spent enough on advertising during 1988 to have bought every man, woman and child in London a pint of their product.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEADLINES

■ GIRL WHO TURNED INTO A TOMATO

(Daily Mirror, on a girl who was addicted to tomato soup and started to turn red).

■ I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A LITTLE ONE

(Sun, commenting on their cut-price trip to France - undercutting the Daily Mirror by 1p).

■ WHAT DO PUERTO RICANS DO 180 TIMES AN HOUR, THE FRENCH 110 TIMES AN HOUR AND THE BRITISH NOT AT ALL?

(Daily Mirror, an article about touching).

■ AISLE BE ALL WHITE NOW.

(Sun, bride having her wedding photos re-taken, after the vicar spilt ink down her dress).

■ HUBBY TURNS WIFE INTO EGYPTIAN MUMMY

(Sunday Sport).

■ EYEFUL ON THE EIFFEL TOWER

(Sunday Sport)

■ SEXY SUSAN'S KNOCKERS CAME FROM OUTER SPACE

(Sunday Sport).

■ MOSCOW REPORTERS CLAMOUR FOR ACCESS.

(Independent, they want permission to travel to an earthquake zone).

■ PRINCE IS KING.

(Daily Star, on the pop star, Prince, having more hit records than anyone else).

■ RUBBERY WITH VIOLENCE

(Sun, on a condom firm's boss being savagely beaten up after whistling at a pretty girl).

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

NAMES? & NAMES!

The leader of the nation of Lesotho is - **King Moshoeshoe II.**

James Arnold changed his middle name from Haydn because he hated it so much. He is now **James Henry Alexander Frederick Fraser Wilson Taylor Picket Bird Ladd Plantaganet Fitzwilliam Neagle.**

The ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sierra Leone is **Mr. Dong Kim Jiv.**

Isabelle Colin Dufresne changed her name to **Ultra Violet** when she became an actress.

The leader of the Pan-African Congress is **Zephania Mothopeng.**

The sister of the Zulu king has married the Paramount chief designate of the Rarabes tribe of the Xhosas. **Princess Nomusa KaBhekuzulu KaSolomon KaCeteshwayo** was wed to **Prince Maxhobayakhawuleza Sandile.**

I'M PRINCE MAXHOBAYAKHAWULEZA SANDILE...
YOU CAN CALL ME MAX !



North Korea's new premier is **Yon Hyung Muk.**

In the New Year's Honours List [1989] the **Venerable Archdeacon Kingi Matutaera Ihaka** was knighted.

'Paddy' Ashdown's real name is - **Jeremy John Durham Ashdown.**

The president of Mauritania is **Ould Sid' Ahmed Tays.**

Chatichai Choonhavan - Prime Minister of Thailand.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

NAMES? & NAMES!

Mr. Bra Kanon - Ivory Coast's Agriculture minister.

Sir Florizel Glasspole - Governor General of Jamaica.

Mr Tubby - man going on a sponsored slim in Ardleigh, Essex.

Peter McDonald - Chief of the Navajo indian nation.

Stirling Moss - police driver in West London.



Tingting Masango - Member of the African National Congress (ANC) on trial in South Africa for treason.

Mr. Sparrow - petshop owner in Gatley, Nr. Manchester.

The ruler of Tonga is **King Tauf'ahau Tupou IV**.

Mr. Singer & Mr. Melody - arrested for fighting in Northumberland.

Andrew Langley & Andrew Langley - married twin sisters at Audlem, Cheshire.

Dilys Puddephatt - employee of Westminster Council.

Bonifacio Draculan - Philippines police corporal.

Count Joachim Henrich Maria Carl Rudolph Franz Xavier Joseph Antonius Christophorus Hubertus Graf und Herr von Schoenburg, Graf und Herr zu Glauchau und Waldenburg.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

NAMES? & NAMES!

Murphy Morobe - Acting publicity director of the United Democratic Front of South Africa.

Dickson Darko - A worker from Cocobod, Ghana, who died tragically in police custody.

Scottish bookie **Ivor Wynn** has changed his name to **Joe Loss** to avoid punters continually pulling his leg.

Moustapha Ka - Senegalese Minister of Culture.



A Miss C Mawer has just become engaged to a Mr N Shore in Sussex. When they marry she will become, of course, **Mrs. C. Shore**.

Dr. Who fan David Robertson has changed his name by deed poll to - **Dr. Who**. His girlfriend refuses to call him 'doctor'.

Elvis Presley's manager, Colonel Tom Parker was born **Andrea van Kuijk**.

Prince Mangkubumi of Indonesia is being crowned as hereditary King of Java. He will be known as **King Hamengkubuwono THE TENTH**.

Miss Saturday & Mr Friday - married in Bensheim, West Germany.

Dr. Brainard - A neurologist at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JUST PEOPLE

The Tuxedo jacket made its debut in 1886 when a notorious dandy, Griswold Lorillard, wore one to a ball at a swank country club in Tuxedo Park, New York. They became acceptable some 30 years later, when the Prince of Wales took to sporting one.

Minimum ages for people in Vietnam to have babies is 22 for women and 24 for men. Families with more than two children will be penalised.

A woman lender returned an overdue book to Edinburgh library. Her excuse was that it had been buried with her husband.

A stowaway died in the funnel of a ship leaving Ghana bound for England. He choked to death on the acrid smoke after hiding under a metal canopy at the top of the 100ft tunnel.

8 out of 10 dads play with the Christmas presents they buy for their sons.

English working class women didn't begin wearing knickers until the 1880's.

When a 74-year-old pensioner killed a cyclist by mowing him down with his car he drove home for 6 miles with the body sticking through the windscreen. Witnesses watched as he finally attempted to pull the body right into the car and stuff it out of sight. When interviewed he claimed: "I know nothing about any accident, I've been to church."

In Italy, the latest craze on the toy market is a plastic monster called "Disect an Alien". The creature can be sliced open to reveal its insides and it oozes green 'blood'. Italian MP's are trying to get it banned after a 4 year-old boy tried to cut up his sister instead.

JUST PEOPLE

85 cats owned by a 54-year-old lady in Yorkshire leave no room in the house for her husband. The poor man, who lives in a caravan in the garden, has been back into the house once in the last 10 years, to use the telephone.

A German professor has worked out that housewives perform 216 different tasks around the home.

Research shows that women watch television for 29 hours and 27 minutes a week. Men watch for 25 hours 6 minutes.

The latest survey shows that only 2% of Britain's population does not watch TV.

The 'average' wife spends over three quarters of her life in her home - compared with less than two thirds for a man. Women are also reckoned to do 25 times more ironing than men.

A recent survey has shown that the most likely month for a woman to conceive is November.

It is estimated that 40 people in Gloucestershire will reach their hundredth birthday this year.

Nearly 40% of people aged between 16 and 24 are balding.

According to an opinion poll, Scotsmen are the most generous group in Britain. The meanest are to be found in South East England.

A Notts couple who claimed that they were driven from their semi by a ghost do not qualify for a new council house. A high court judge made the ruling, deciding that they'd made themselves homeless.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JUST PEOPLE

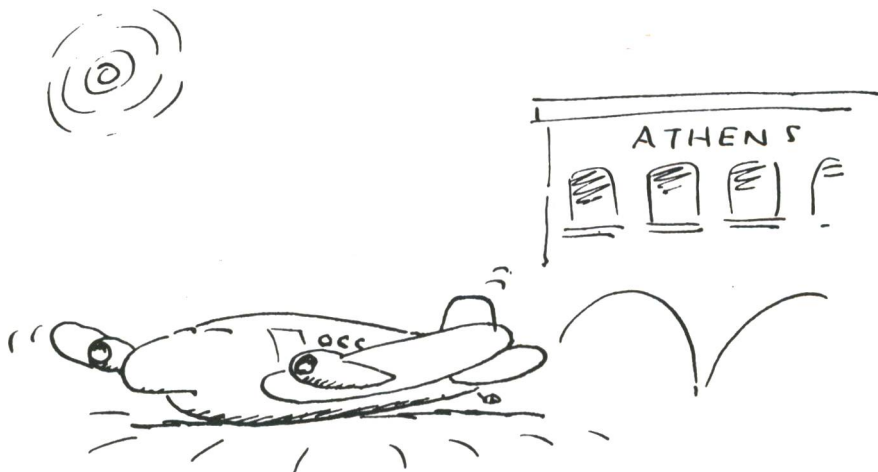
Mrs Jane Dunning recently gave birth to a girl. Everyone knew she would -as there hasn't been a boy in the family for five generations.

Twins, in Tennessee, died within eight hours of each other. They had both celebrated their 81st. birthday the previous day.

Verone, Italy, held a competition in 1988 to find the shortest 'legal' mini-skirt. The 16 year old winner wore one 6.9 inches long.

British women take 4 baths a week on average and spend 26 minutes in each time. Men average three and spend only 24 minutes soaking.

A Boeing 737 couldn't take off from Greece recently - until 12 overweight passengers disembarked and lightened the load.



HEADLINES

■ **HANGINGS OPEN OLD WOUNDS IN PUNJAB**

(Daily Telegraph).

■ **HIROHITO'S SCOUSE COUSIN, PADDY MURPHY**

(Independent, article about Kanso Yoshida, relative of the late emperor, who settled in Liverpool in the 1900's).

■ **CHOIR BOSS WAS VERSE FOR DRINK, NOW HE FACES MUSIC**

(Daily Star).

■ **ANGRY ALIEN KICKED HABIT.**

(Sunday Sport, a grumpy alien, who kicked smoking goes on the rampage).

■ **BOY SURVIVES ON RICE KRISPIES FOR 4 YEARS.**

(Sun, story about a boy who is sick if he eats anything else).



■ **WHEN BLACK TURNS TO WHITE AND IS READ ALL OVER**

(independent, on the way the press can distort the truth).

■ **BRITAIN KEEPS BADER'S LEGS.**

(Daily Star, how Sir Douglas Bader's legs have been 'saved' for Britain).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

POLITICS!

Leaders of Labour controlled Exeter council have sent the chancellor a bill for a debt incurred by William of Orange in 1688. It is for billeting 156 soldiers and, with interest calculated at 10%, amounts to £900,000,000,000,000.

The Morning Star has set up a radio advertising campaign on the Isle of Man - aimed at increasing its present circulation of 22.

One charity offering Christmas cards for sale is the National Welfare Association. It exists, apparently, to support imprisoned activists of the National Front movement.

When Portugal left Guinea-Bissau on that country's independence the former colonial masters left, bulging, in the emergent nation's coffers ... 50 cents.

Psychologists have analysed political interviews and report that Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. Kinnock evade more than half the questions put to them.

A councillor has been sacked because he can't read or write - in Brazil.

Because the town clerk at Newton Abbott, Devon, won't venture out of doors on Friday 13th. council business was conducted from his home on that day.

In 1950 the Conservative Party received a total income from donations of £884,000. In 1971 the total was £623,000.

The cost of the government's computerisation programme for social security has jumped from an original estimate of £713 millions to £1,749 millions - whilst the expected savings have fallen from £915 millions to £414 millions.

Ivan Laurence, Conservative, made the longest commons speech this century - 4hrs 23 minutes.

Jack Ashley is the only totally deaf MP in the world.

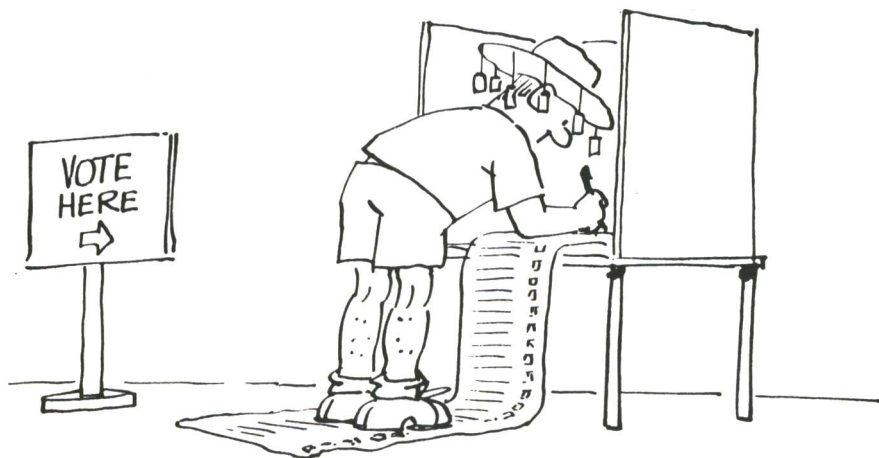
POLITICS!

Frank Bruno has been elected as an honorary member of the Monster Raving Loony Party.

A candidate in the recent Jamaican elections accused his opponent of vote rigging. He claims she got a 'mother' to work 'obeah' for her and it was only this 'magical intervention' which allowed her to win.

The council at Hove, Sussex, have set their rate at ZERO for the third time in the last four years.

In the election for members to the Legasliutive Assembly in Canberra, Australia, the voters have to fill out a ballot form measuring 3ft by 18inches. It contains details of 110 candidates from 22 political parties. Voting is compulsory.



The 1989 Jamaican general election has claimed at least 11 lives. In the last election over 700 people were killed.

A 96 year-old woman was forced to sell her house to make way for a new road. The road was subsequently postponed and a council official moved in.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

YOUR WORSHIP

Nepal is the only country in the world to have Hinduism as its official religion.

A clergyman who handled snakes to prove that he was protected by God was critically ill in Knoxville, Texas. He had been bitten by a rattlesnake.

King Ayong Anei Kur, god on earth to 100,000 members of a Sudanese tribe may not be looked at by ordinary mortals.

Father Constantine Parnas, a Greek priest, was arrested in a brothel in Athens recently. He explained that he worked there as a part time handyman. A 57-year-old prostitute, giving evidence on his behalf said: "If we don't need any repairs or carpentry doing Father Parnas gives us a spiritual talk.

Armenia was the first country in the world to make Christianity its official religion.

It is customary in England for Bishops to sign themselves with the name of their diocese. E.g. David Liverpool.

The Rev. Lionel Marshall officiated at his first wedding ceremony recently - his mum's.

Every section of the Koran starts with the words: 'In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful'.

The Ayatollah Khomeini's official title was: 'Smasher of Idols, The Glorious Upholder of the Faith, The Sole Hope of the Downtrodden, The Vicar of Islam, His Holiness Ayatollah Haj Sayyed Ruhollah Mussavi Khomeini.

ROYALTIES

Our royal family changed its name to Windsor during the First World War. Before that it was 'Wettin' - as Prince Albert was Prince Wettin of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

The Duke of Gloucester is Grand Prior of the Order of St. John.

Louis XVI's favourite book was 'Robinson Crusoe'.

Queen Victoria's youngest daughter was called Beatrice.

King Alphonso XIII's shopping expedition to London's Bond Street, in 1905, had to be cut short when his car accidentally caught fire.

The Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Alexandra share the same birthday.

When the Queen mother married her late husband it was the first time for 540 years that a prince of the royal blood had been married in Westminster abbey.

Queen Victoria's great-grandson, Prince Albert Frederick Arthur George, was born on the 34th anniversary of her husband's death.

King Carl Gustav of Sweden, shopping in his capital city, Stockholm, elected to pay by American Express. Not only did the shop assistant check to see if it had been stolen, but she also asked him for proof of his identity.

The 'laziest' member of the royal family - in "functions attended and holidays taken" is - The Duchess of York.

In a recent poll, American, the Duchess of York was voted the world's worst dressed woman - she just pipped Imelda Marcos to the top spot.

Gerald, Duke of Westminster, is also Earl Grosvenor, Viscount Grosvenor and Baron Grosvenor.

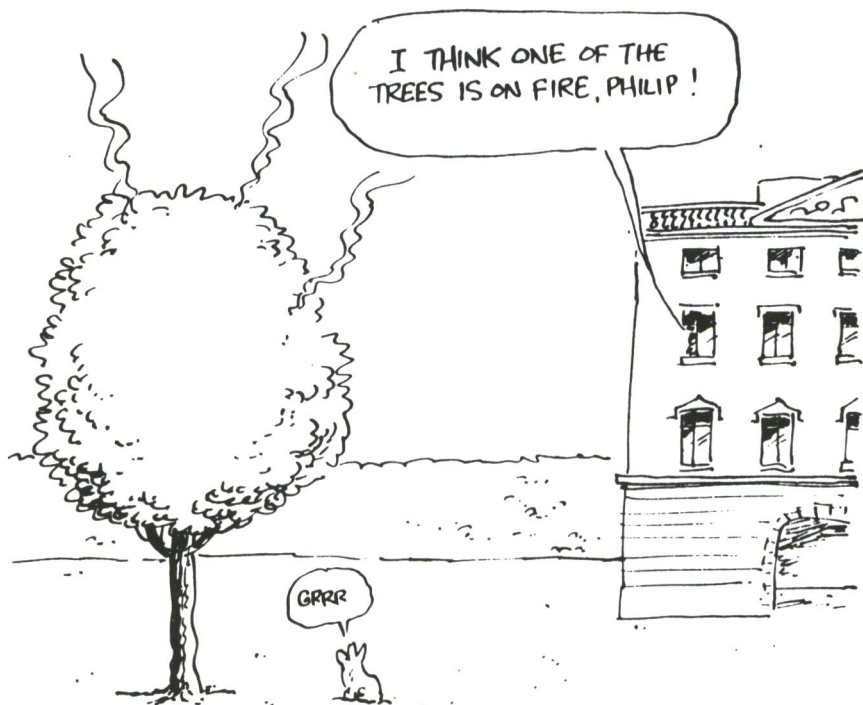
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

ROYALTIES

A recent survey in 'Royalty Monthly' was entitled "Which member of the Royal Family would you most like to meet?" The top 12 answers included: Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Michael Jackson, The Pope, Mrs Thatcher, Neil Kinnock, Elizabeth Taylor and Paddy Ashdown.

The only state funeral this century in Britain NOT for a member of the royal family was that of Sir Winston Churchill, in 1962.

In a recent exercise to test security at Buckingham Palace, three detectives spent three hours sitting up a tree smoking - without being caught by police or soldiers with tracker dogs.



THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

JARGON & TWADDLE

Of particular interest is the section on Thickened Tailings Disposal Technology or in layman's language the dry mud stacking method of disposal... (Weekly Gleaner).

JARGON & TWADDLE

Tewkesbury council recently sent out leaflets explaining housing benefits to pensioners. The letters, computer printed, were FIVE FEET long.

JARGON & TWADDLE

The ensemble's pianist, Pierre- Laurent Aimard, gave the Second Sonata as freshly and thoughtfully as the Schoenberg that he played in London earlier this season, finding rhetoric, grace and poise where violence and hysteria tempt the less sophisticated player (Independent).

JARGON & TWADDLE

Stretching language to the point where it fragments, paring syllables away till words and phrases are present only in a kind of phonetic archeology. Roland Gift's heavily stylised singing succeeds in suggesting some of the emotional demolition of deep soul. (Independent).

JARGON & TWADDLE

His beliefs remained steadfast throughout his career. He continued to preach the superiority of complexity to simplicity, hierarchies to equalities, metaphysics to politics, maturity to youth. (Daily Telegraph).

JARGON & TWADDLE

His long, hungry kisses almost smoked, yet he concluded them with a reverential ducking of the head as if he did not dare believe his luck. (Independent).

JARGON & TWADDLE

Nearly one in two British people are now wondering about something, yet 50% are not, which is two-fifths more than a year ago and five-eighths more than 0.5 of that figure half a decade ago. (UK Press Gazette).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

In the unlikely event that a complaint is received from a reader - an occurrence totally alien to us - then it would be dealt with swiftly and expertly by our highly qualified joint managerial team. (Damien Wilson, deputy editor, Sunday Sport).

Parliament and MP's are at their worst being pompous about dignity and respect or trying to pretend that custard pie throwing is high responsibility. (Austin Mitchell, MP).

Producers look at me and the first thing they see is my body (Brigitte Nielsen).

Newspapers today face heavy responsibilities to preserve the freedom we all enjoy by living up to the best traditions of British journalism. (Rupert Murdoch).

I did not mean and did not say, as was incorrectly reported in the press, that most eggs in this country are infected. (Edwina Currie).

I love France. I love the wine, I love the food, I love the countryside - I just hate the people. (Arthur Marshall, broadcaster).

I put my hands behind my head and said to myself 'Hell, I did it'. (Valerio Viccei, mastermind of the 40 million pound deposit box raid).

Why shouldn't a movie star grow fat, just like any other old man? (Marlon Brando).

There has been an exceptional and regrettable level of civilian casualties arising from IRA operations. (Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein president).

Yes, I have been banned. But I can't tell you why unless dad says I can (Stephen Kinnock, son of Nell).

THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

SCIENTIFIC FACTS?

A chemist who examined 30 cowpats in a country lane near Banbury, Oxford, noted that the road surface had been broken and lifted up half an inch under every dollop. He tried to find the secret force behind the dung, but was forced to admit defeat.



Ants are threatening construction of the world's biggest scientific instrument. It's feared that the giant ants in Northern Texas will eat through the wiring of the 17 mile wide super-colliding atom smasher.

The newest electron atom clock now under development will have an accuracy to one second in 10,000,000,000 years.

Summum, A Utah based compaany, is the only company in the world with a patented process for mummification. They are, apparently, keen to market the process in UK as an alternative to cremation and burial.

A marketing company will soon be able to bring you holographic adverts in magazines. 3-D advertising is now possible.

Dr. Hans Delmut, of Washington State University, believes he can produce a clock more accurate than the official definition of time.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

SCIENTIFIC FACTS?

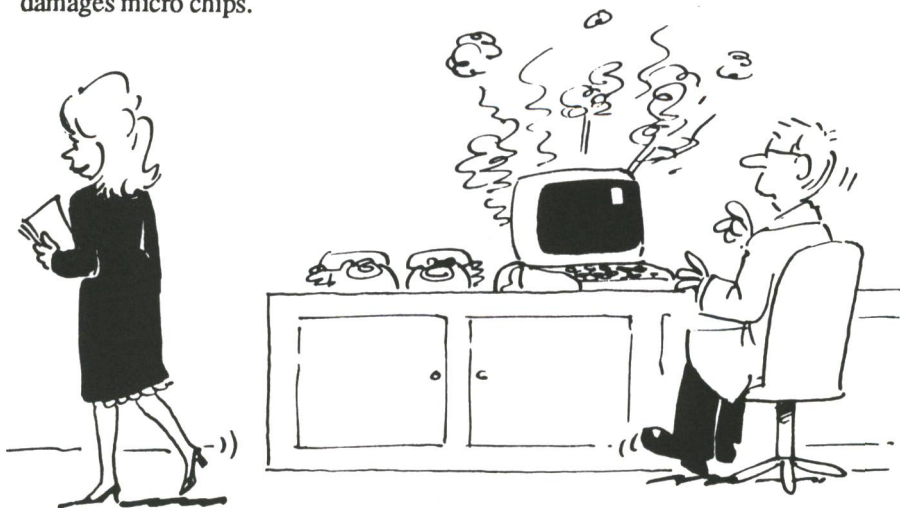
Leeches saliva is being used as a potential cure for heart attacks and strokes.

Scientists who have developed a wrinkle free, non-mushy tomato are not allowed to taste it. If someone inadvertently swallowed the seeds the plant could end up in the sewerage system and possibly grow. This would constitute an unauthorised release of a genetically engineered organism.

Studies reveal how colours affect us. Yellow is the most cheering colour, red/orange stimulating, blue/green relaxing, dark brown, deep purple and black are depressing.

A scientist has claimed that a quarter of all the atoms in the universe are made of Helium.

An expert has blamed women's slinky nylon underwear for causing 'millions of pounds' worth of damage to computer equipment. The expert claims that the materials cause the build-up of dangerous amounts of static which, when released, damages micro chips.



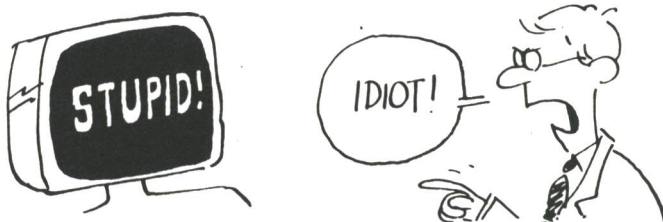
SCIENTIFIC FACTS?

A top astronomer has booked a room in a hotel at Land's end for August 11th 1999. He has calculated that an eclipse of the sun, by the moon, will be visible there on that date.

Research undertaken by Professor Rushden at the University of Western Ontario claims to have proven a relationship between the size of the human brain and the size of human genitalia.

The International Committee of Weights and Measures has announced great news for electricity consumers. New standards of measurement for the volt and ohm will mean a saving! Bills will drop by 15 parts per million - leading to a saving of a few pence in a life time.

A computer programme has been developed that can generate 22,000,000 insults. One example is "You revolting box of fresh bug parts" Wow!



Due to an error made over 40 years ago scientists have discovered that the boiling point of water is not 100 degrees Centigrade. It is 99.97 degrees Centigrade.

Stress in a pig's life can now be assessed by scientists. By analysing its spit.

When Concorde breaks through the sound barrier its airframe elongates by 1.5 inches.

The Ministry of Agriculture recommends that babies should not eat cattle brain, spinal cord, spleen or tripe?

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEADLINES

■ DR. GROPE TOOK PANTS OFF WIFE WITH SPOTTY FACE.

(Daily Star, on how a 'doctor' conned gullible women).

■ BLAND, PLANNED AND CANNED

(Sunday Telegraph, about American TV).

■ BUTTER SALES DROP AS HEALTHY EATERS ESCHEW THE FAT

(Daily Telegraph).

■ TAKING THE PITH

(Daily Mirror, about a helmet invented to cure depression).

■ NAGGED TO DEAF

(Sun [and Daily Mirror], on how a deaf man went beserk after his wife continually nagged him).

■ KENYA MOURNS MAGIC PYTHON'S PASSING

(Independent, on the death of a 16ft python, believed to have had magic powers).

■ WHO'S TAKING THE PIZZA?

(Daily Mirror, about the state of McDonald's burgers).

■ EXPLODING RABBIT IN ARSON ENQUIRY

(Daily Telegraph, how a booby trapped rabbit exploded).

■ COWS LUNGS SPARK FEAR OF OFFAL CRIME

(Sun, on a murder alert started after someone mistook cow innards for human ones).

■ UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT LOST BENEATH THE CITY

(Sunday Observer, about the 'Guardian Angels').

■ SEE YOUR DOCTOR AND VOMIT

(Independent, mind association).

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

Did I say that?!?

I may be old but I'm not stupid. (Ronald Reagan).

I hope some small gain will come from this bloody awful book. (Edwina Currie, about Salman Rushdie's book 'The Satanic Verses').

I do not have to comment on anything I did not say (Edwina Currie).

The Democrats are an immensely more powerful party than Dr. Owen's SDP. (Paddy Ashdown).

He says he took the sandwich because he was hungry. Some might argue that he must have been very hungry to steal a British Rail sandwich. (Magistrate Sir Bryan Roberts, after a man had been held in jail for 4 weeks for allegedly stealing a sandwich).

The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain. Hurricanes hardly ever happen in Hampshire or Dorset. This is a lie. Hurricanes do happen all over the bloody place. Except in tunnels. Which is one of the main attractions of a tube from Ealing to Essex. (Neil Kinnock - doodled on a pad during the political programme, Agenda).

I detest drugs. I swear as a catholic and as a family man, I have no connection with drugs. (Andres Rodriguez, provisional president of Paraguay).

I want to show 'em we can be gents, not just beer swilling louts smoking 60 fags a day. (Jocky Wilson, discussing his forthcoming American visit).

If you can marry Fergie you can marry anybody. Ha, ha, ha, Isn't she awful, Isn't she dreadful? (Ludovic Kennedy, broadcaster).

The nice thing about training in Arizona is that you can get a nice suntan there (Frank Bruno).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

SMALL ADS

Desirable anarchic Surrey lady seeks lighthearted leftie male. I am slim 5'5" brunette looking for romance, intellectual stimulation and laughs. Main interests theatre, politics and campaigning for NHS and mental health care. **(Marxism Today)**

Two violent femmes (16) who like to twist and shout over cans of Special Brew, looking for a cure for holiday blues in the purple rain. Into Jesus and Mary Chain and Cramps. If you look like Glenn Medeiros - we're not that desperate! We'll answer good letters. Photo preferred. (male) **(Sky)**.

Wanted - married couple same as ourselves:- about 62 - 64 years. Wife suffers from agorophobia, husband likes walking. For weekend walks, companionship. **(YHA)**

Shy, independent, single, outgoing girl, 18, Jamaican origin. Would like to correspond with any safe guys ... **(Caribbean Times)**.

ESKIMO NELL. Classic, elegant, dirty, feminist. Fifty three definitive verses for 5 plus SAE to D. E. DICK ... **(Tribune)**

Claudette Campbell, age unknown, hobbies include ... **(Asian Times)**.

Zanzibar/Mombasa and British East Africa coins, medals and notes wanted by collector/ researcher and writer. Also would like to make friends with attractive ladies, 18-49 from anywhere. **(Asian Times)**.

Kenyan Asian Muslim, 33, divorced, secretary, seeks Asian Muslim gentleman, preferably formerly from Africa, for friendship/ marriage. I am penniless with no house/ car. **(Caribbean Times)**.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MISCELLANY

A circus is seeking a lady without b.o. to become a snake handler. The smell of sweat makes pythons angry.

The record speed for scoring a goal, from kick-off, in a football match is 4 seconds.
Whitstable Town v Danson.

A house which went up for sale in Surrey this year for 175,000 was built in 13 DAYS.

Did I say that?!?

We have become a grandmother (Mrs. Thatcher).

It's amazing how they've caught on [red noses]. I was on the motorway the other day and every car seemed to have one - It says something about the British public. (Lenny Henry).

I'm so sexy that when I open my underwear drawer in the morning, my underpants jump up and down shouting 'Me! Me!' (Lenny Henry).

What I object to are housewives, they're bloodsuckers. Do you know that 70 percent of husbands only stay with their wives because they can't afford a divorce? (Umberto Gallini, of the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Male).

He had a way with words but I never thought that such a quiet boy would have ended up in so much trouble. (George Helliwell, Salman Rushdie's former English master).

Free and open markets may be the key to financial success. But if they are to operate fairly and honestly someone has to write the rules and see that they are rigidly enforced. (The Queen).

I know Alex inside out. He isn't really a drunken, mad Irishman. (Siobhan Kidd)

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MISCELLANY

It has been calculated that the average Japanese man spends 31.7 seconds in the loo - compared with 1min 33 secs for Japanese women.

Of 51,000,000 letters posted daily over 4,000,000 do not arrive on time.

6.3% of British MP's are female.

The Jamaica Weekly Gleaner carried an advert. from a finance and investment company in Malvern, Worcs. They wished to buy dried sharks fins. [They didn't say what for].

The worst traffic jam in Britain at New Year 1989 was at Lockerbie. It was caused by drivers slowing down to look at the grief stricken village. A 10 mile tail-back was reported.

Ken Oxley, 72, bid £10 at an auction "to help the auctioneer get the bidding moving" and ended up with 50,000 false teeth.

The fastest ascent of Mt. Everest is 22.5 hours, by a 37 year old Frenchman.

More than 90% of visitors to this country arrive at 3 places. Heathrow, Gatwick & Dover.

A 29 year-old solicitor won the 1988 world tiddley wink championships with a 57 inch flip.

It is estimated that Americans chew 852,272,732 miles of chewing gum every year.

The new 'Rubik's Cube' has 256 times as many combinations as the first model. It has 11,072,512,838,269,402,136,000 combinations.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MISCELLANY

Of Britain's most popular library books, 35% are written by Catherine Cookson.

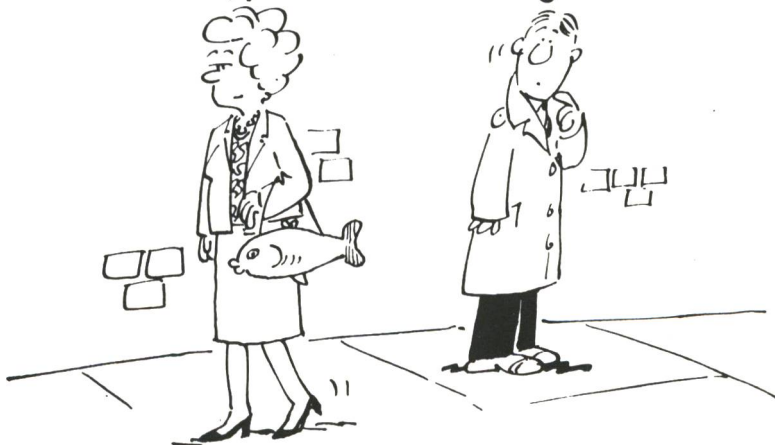
Belfast's "Newsletter" is Britain's oldest daily newspaper, launched in 1737.

A recent survey showed that the most popular TV advert. in 1988 was - for Andrex toilet tissue.

January 8th is the feast day of St. Severinus of Noricum.

Port Talbot Golf club has not actually had a course since the 1950's. Developers bought the land, but the club retained the 19th hole - and the name.

A tannery in Scotland specialises in tanning salmon skins to make into shoes, purses and handbags.



A group of vampire and werewolf hunters who wanted to dig up Robin Hood's body to see if he'd been killed by a vampire have had their request turned down.

A condom company has had its request to use the Latin motto "Futue mundum" on its products turned down. A sharp-eyed scholar at the Trademarks Registry Office translated the inscription. It means '**** the world'.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MISCELLANY

A 20 stone man is alleged to have set a crematorium ablaze in California. He was dead at the time. His bulky body caused such a build up of heat as it burnt that the electrical system in the building fused and set the chimney on fire.

Frank Ruse is the only Liverpool city councillor to own a Blue Peter badge.

Mickey Mouse is a year older than Popeye - they are 60 and 59.

The computer at Barclays bank apparently had the word 'Barclay' missing from its spell-checker. Everytime the word was used the computer substituted the nearest word in its dictionary - 'Broccoli'.



The smallest hairdresser's shop in the world is at the end of Brighton Pier.

Dept. of transport figures show that the average traffic speed in Central london 20 years ago, during peak periods, was 11.8mph. Today, the average is 11.0mph.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

MISCELLANY

George Calil, of Upper Shell, was the 1989 winner of Westminster School's Shrove Tuesday Grease Game.

The world deep sea diving record stands at 520 metres.

1988 was the warmest, globally, since records began. The mean global temperature was up by 0.34°C.

Mrs Marjorie Gait is the oldest woman in Britain to 'hole in one'. She is 85.

The two most popular books in prison libraries are: Dictionaries and the Guinness Book of Records.

For every copy of 'Today' that people buy 13 copies of the 'Sun' are purchased.

In 1989 there was one vehicle in England for each 94 miles of road.

There are over 120 Daily and Sunday newspapers in Britain.

The average weekly wage for men is 51% more than the average woman's weekly earnings.

Chances of dying in a plane crash are almost exactly the same as dying in a train smash - and 520 times less likely than dying in a motorcycle accident.

Schoolboy Marc Swan ate his way into the Guinness book of records. His feat? He ate a 300 page Guinness Book of records.

Radio Sussex reported that the cost of funerals in the county was the highest in the country. The reason given was the high cost of living.

An angler, after pike, lost his rod and line to one of the fierce creatures. He returned the following day and found them - with the fish still attached - and managed to land it.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

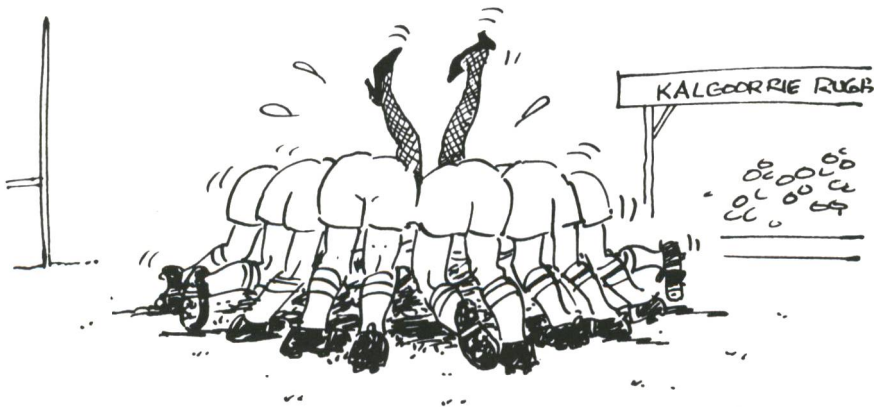
MISCELLANY

There are 51% more accidents on the clockwise carriageway of the M25 than on the anti-clockwise lanes.

The first player to win a snooker world championship using a two-piece cue was John Spencer in 1977.

A maximum break at snooker has never been recorded. If an opponent opens with a foul shot and has to concede a free ball it is possible to score 155.

The Kalgoorlie Rugby League team in Western Australia is being sponsored by - its local brothel.



The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) last year imposed a registration fee of £50 on everyone on their waiting list. This had the dramatic effect of slashing the waiting list to only 25 years.

An Oakdale, Gwent, landlord installed a round snooker table in his pub - after complaints that space around the original was too cramped.

THE UMICARE BOOK OF
TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

HEADLINES

■ VEIL ANGERS BONGO

(West Africa, How Mrs. Veil, French MP, upset the Prime minister of Gabon, Mr. Bongo).

■ BUSH NEARLY EATEN BY JAP WAR CRIMINALS

(Daily Star, not A BUSH - *George* Bush).

■ THE CARNIVAL IS OVERT

(Sunday Telegraph, the archbishop of Rio de Janeiro denounces the sexuality of the carnival).

■ MAN BUTTS WIFE IN GOB AND WEDS GOAT

(Sunday Sport).

■ WIND OF CHANGE FOR THE BAKED BEAN

(Sunday Observer, on windiness being taken out of beans).

■ WINCE HILL

(The Sun, singer Vince Hill gets his daimler damaged).

■ ONE MAN EATS HIS DOG

(Independent, about the privations of Sir Douglas Mawson ,Antarctic hero).

■ DPP ACTS ON TESTICLE CASE

(Police Review, on police allegedly beating a man and damaging said articles).

■ BOY WHO ATE BATTERY CHOKES ON A J-CLOTH

(Daily Star, on how an 18 year old died).

■ 65 STONE DIET CHEAT EXPLODES

(Sunday Sport).

■ WAS THAT ECTOPLASM OR EGG SANDWICH IN THE CAFE?

(Psychic News).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

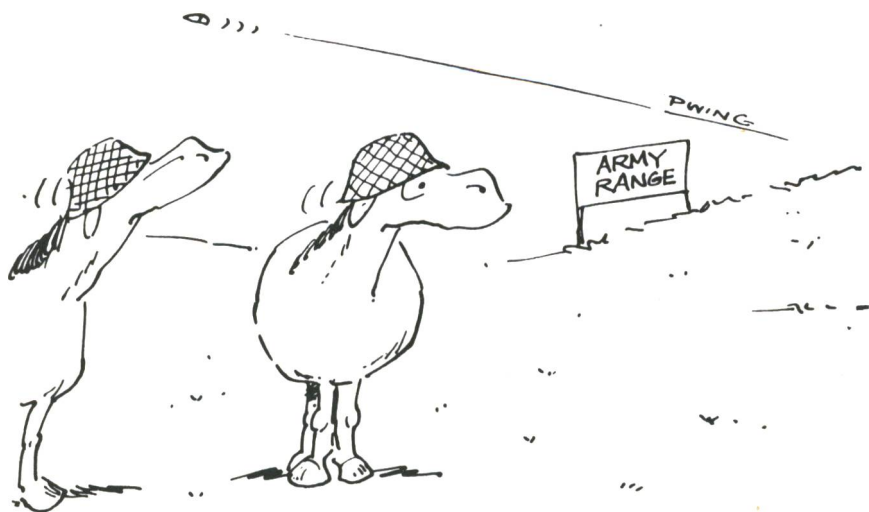
The Iran-Iraq conflict has claimed the lives of between 800,000 and 1,500,000 people - according to whether you take eastern or western estimates. There is no official death toll.

Rumania ia alleged to have developed a secret gun for use by its spies. The weapon apparently gives off radiation and kills its victim by causing cancer. Four suspected victims, formerly in good health, are reported to have died 'very quickly'.

The 1925 Geneva Protocol (The Geneva convention) banned chemical warfare, but NOT the manufacture of chemical weapons for warfare.

One of the (two) ingredients in Mustard Gas is contained in ballpoint pens.

During the past 5 years farmers have been paid a total of £2,400 in compensation for animals killed during army training on Dartmoor.



THE UMICARE BOOK OF TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

A 5,000 mile mercy dash for a soldier with a 'broken' neck was estimated to have cost taxpayers £35,000. There was no break, a hair on the x-ray machine had caused confusion.

Greek servicemen are due to receive a whopping 100% pay rise! This will bring their weekly wage up to £6.20 a month - still leaving them the poorest soldiers in the west.

A company called Chalamont, in Italy, is using Benito Mussolini's picture on their latest range of after shaves - to promote sales.

A British soldier, serving in a Gurkha regiment as a staff sergeant would receive an annual pension, after 22 years' service, of £4,667. A Gurkha with the same regiment, grade and service would get - £458.

According to the Pentagon the most dangerous terrorist organisations in the world are: 1) Abu Nidal. 2) Hezbollah/Jihad. 3) The IRA.

The SAS shooting on Gibraltar has led to a massive increase in tourism.

A recent vacancy occurred in the Sultan of Oman's navy. for an instructor in Bagpipe Drumming.

A 21-year-old soldier fell 1,000 feet after his parachutes failed to open. Since the jump was his qualifying one, he will receive his 'wings' - in hospital.

The Ulster defence regiment handed over four army weapons to two confidence tricksters.

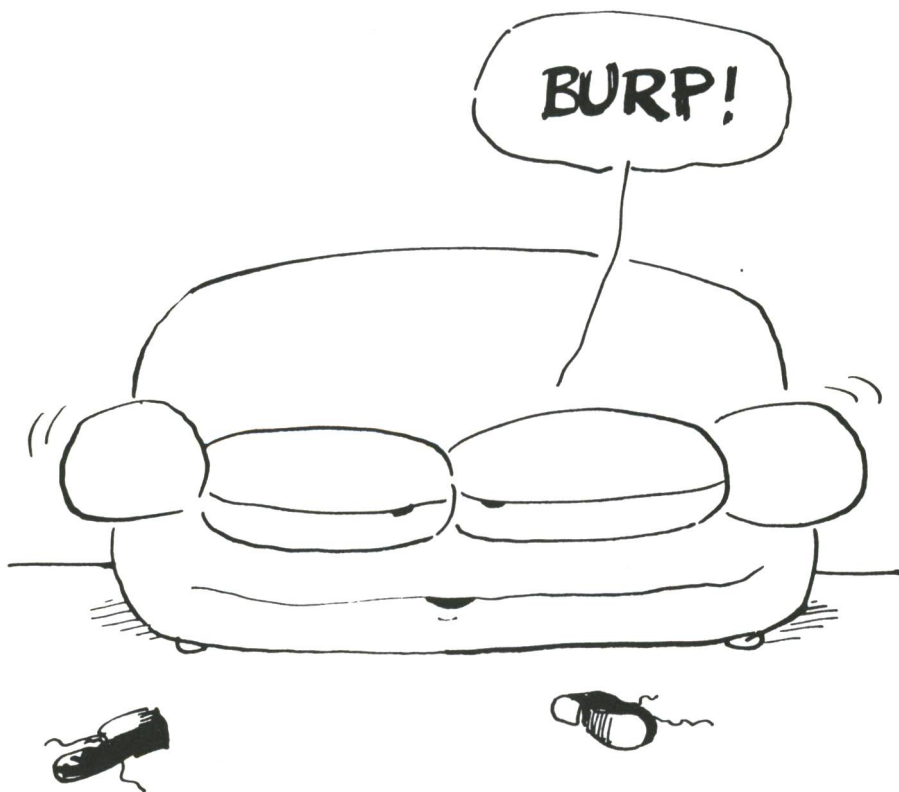
The United Arab Emirates have been fighting this year - against a plague of locusts, the largest recorded for 30 years.

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Children under 15 made up 40% of the casualties in the last Palestinian uprising.

Grandchildren of Nazi victims are exempt from military service in West Germany.



HEADLINES

■ **TOURIST WITH SEE-THROUGH TRUNKS IN CLEAR**

(Daily Telegraph, a man arrested because he wore see through swimming trunks goes free).

■ **SHOTGUN ROBBER STEALS HEART OF LADY JUROR**

(The Sun).

■ **HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI, FRED'S CAFE. WHICH HAS KILLED MORE PEOPLE?**

(Sunday Telegraph. Advert for the Coronary Prevention Group).

■ **WHAT IS FILTHY, POISONED, STEAMS AND STINKS AND IS CONSTANTLY ON THE SOLES OF YOUR SHOES.**

(Private Eye, an advert. for a book by Ben Elton. [The Earth]).

■ **NOSE BREAKS LEG.**

(The Sun, a car crushes a man as he fits a red comic nose to it).

■ **BREASTFEEDING IS A PUBLIC ISSUE**

(Independent, asking for better facilities for nursing mothers).

■ **SURVIVORS FROM SOUTH POLE BUS FOUND**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **XENOPHOBIA AS A SURVIVAL MECHANISM**

(Independent).

■ **MY SOFA ATE ME FOR LUNCH**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **THEIR PROPHET ... OUR LOSS?**

(Daily Mirror, about the Khomeini/ Rushdie affair).

■ **OAT CUISINE IS A KILLER**

(The Sun, a Scotsman who cannot eat porridge).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

Britain's bosses spend 5 hours a week hunting lost papers but only 15 minutes a day playing with their children.

Businessman Khun Sa, speaking to the Bangkok Post, said that he expected a healthy crop in 1988-89 and that he was looking forward to 'a very good year'. Mr. Khun is speaking about opium, of which he owns huge fields in Thailand's so called 'Opium Triangle'.

Government cutbacks could see the loss of 6 million construction workers jobs next year [1990] - in China

British workers have longer hours than any other country in the common market.

A civilian working for the M.O.D. recently had his claim for unfair dismissal rejected by an industrial tribunal. He had left a dead sparrow in his mate's sandwiches, smashed his radio/cassette, poured grease and paint into his toolbox and daubed obscenities on his locker and workbench.

Only 26% of male manual workers admit to using deodorant or perfume.



HEADLINES

■ **THE GIRL WITH £6 MILLION IN HER KNICKERS**

(Daily Star, a business woman's underwear empire).

■ **HEAD SUSPENDED.**

(Daily Telegraph, a head teacher suspended by his school's board).

■ **GRANNY FROM OUTER SPACE KEEPS ALIENS IN HER ATTIC**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **RUBBER BANDS NEVER FORGET**

(Today. Article on scientists carrying out research to see if rubber bands have memories).

■ **WEE SURPRISE**

(Daily Mirror, in which someone empties a chamberpot out of an upstairs window).

■ **PIZZA OFF!**

(Daily Star - a well known food chain refuses a reporter permission to inspect its kitchens).

■ **CUPID STUNT**

(The Sun, how prison officers let Stewart Spooner out of jail to get married).

■ **£1M OPERATION TO SAVE TRAPPED MOLE**

(Daily Telegraph, a mechanical tunneling 'mole' worth £400,000).

■ **ELVIS ALIVE, BALD, BROKE AND IN BRITAIN**

(Sunday Sport).

■ **COPS QUIZZED OVER WHO BROKE WIND IN CHURCH**

(The Sun).

■ **£150 FINE FOR WEARING JUMPER.**

(Daily Telegraph, a fishmonger who shouldn't have been wearing a woolly while serving customers).

TRIVIA & QUOTATIONS

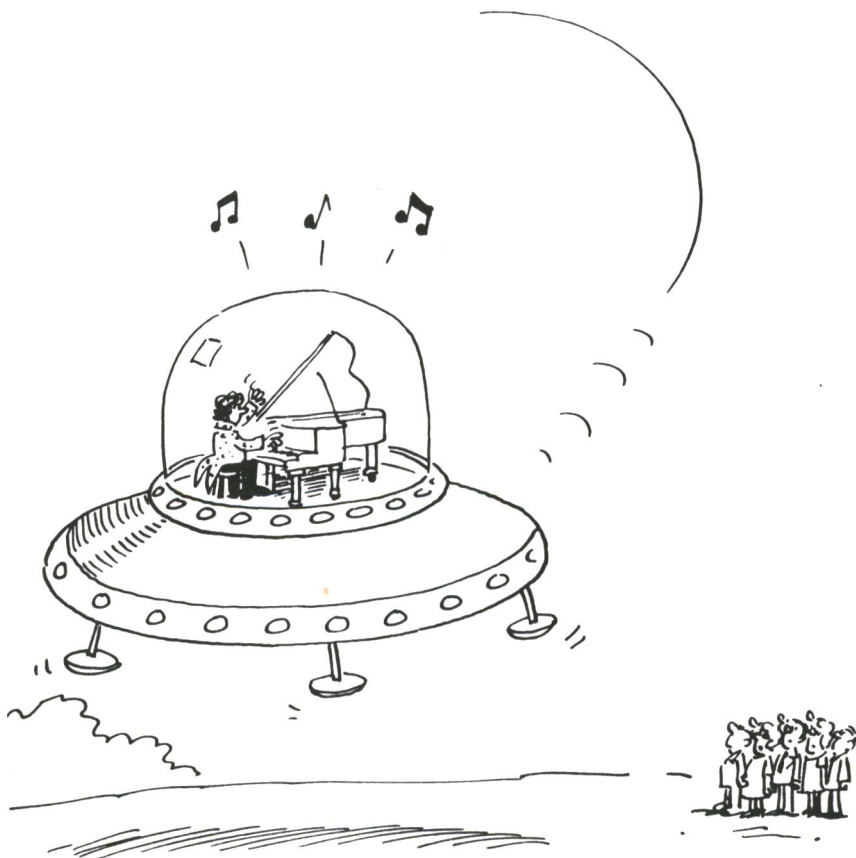
HEADLINES

■ LEAF KILLS YOUTH

(Daily Telegraph. Poison from yew tree leaves).

■ LIBERACE BACK FROM THE DEAD IN A U.F.O.

(Daily Star - *not the Sunday Sport?*)



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Mike Atkinson - cartoonist.

is the creator of "Fat Cat" featured in the Sunday Express and "Prince of the Palace" syndicated in regional newspapers throughout England.

Mike Atkinson received the royal sum of two guineas when his first cartoon was accepted for publication and he has been a professional cartoonist for five years.

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